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The SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER MAGAZINE

FOR

CONSUMERS AND EMPLOYEES

Published monthly by the
San Joaquin Light & Power Co

Waterfall in the Tule River

Vol. I September, 1913 No. 9

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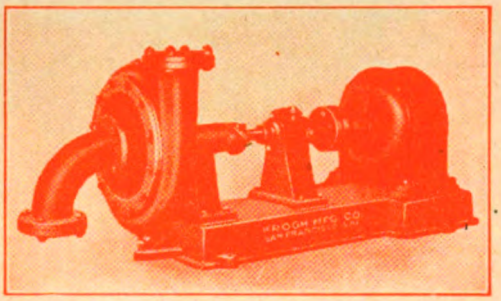

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San Joaquin Light and Power Magazine

CONTENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Penstock and Power House Site ..... Frontispiece

The Tule River Power Plant 377

How the Counties of California Received Their Names 393

Comment Regarding the Pumping Plant 394

Experimenting in Summer Planting of Alfalfa 395

Edison Day—Thirty-Fourth Anniversary of Incandescent Lamp 396

Developing Water on the West Side 399

Value of California Dairy Products 405

Views of Tule River Power Plant 406

Editorial 408

News Around the Loop 410

Personnel of Organization 423

Vol. 1 **TEN CENTS THE COPY** **No. 9**

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Excavation for the penstock from the top of Pipe Line Hill to the power house site at the base of the mountain. The penstock is approximately 3600 feet in length, having a gross head of 1523 feet. The beginning of the excavation is midway between the two rocks to the right of the highest point of the hill.

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SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT AND POWER MAGAZINE

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The Tule River Power Plant

NEARING completion in the canyon of the Tule River, which comes down from the Sierra Nevadas in Tulare County, is the newest of the hydro-electric plants of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation and the fourth to be placed in operation on the system. The opening of the headgate sometime before the first of the year will bring about the realization of a project which had its beginning eleven years ago. While the greater part of this time some work was actually under way, not until the past year and few months, when there began to be signs of a demand for the increased capacity that the new plant will supply, was full steam ahead ordered and now construction is being rushed with all possible haste.

Back in the high Sierras, between the head waters of the Kaweah and Kern Rivers, the Tule River has its beginning. Two little streams trickle over the rocks, gathering volume as they flow and soon become lost to the view of each other as they wend their courses lower around the base of a chain of jutting mountains. On and on they travel, following the canyons between steep mountain sides, swelled here and there by the offerings of willing feeders until they have become formidable bodies, each hurrying down a deep and precipitous canyon to a spot where the mountain that separates seems suddenly to vanish from sight. Here they hurry to unite, while high above them the jagged rough-faced barrier watches sentinel-like, powerless to further intervene, as they roll along as one to the valley beyond.

To the trained eye of Mr. A. G. Wishon, who as a real estate man in Tulare County had traveled the country over and over and familiarized himself with all of its resources, this river offered wonderful possibilities for the development of electric power. At the point of confluence of the two streams he saw the ideal location for a plant to be driven by the combined water power of both branches. He never lost sight of this project and, although later becoming interested in other hydroelectric development in the county, he made up his mind to some day return to this spot and choose it for its work.

The time came during the latter part of 1902. On horseback he journeyed the thirty or thirty-five miles into the mountains and made his filing for the water power site as provided for by the law in effect at that time. In honor of the early settlers who were the first to make their homes on the banks of the stream, the east branch had become known as the Nelson Branch, while the other the Main or Doyle Branch. Of the two the Doyle Branch is the largest, but filings were made on both and the location of the power house was chosen at a point at the base of the mountain where the two branches unite. This would permit tunnel lines to be driven through the opposite sides of the mountain chain separating the streams and the water from each brought to the top of the ridge, where the tunnels would unite, and the combined heads dropped

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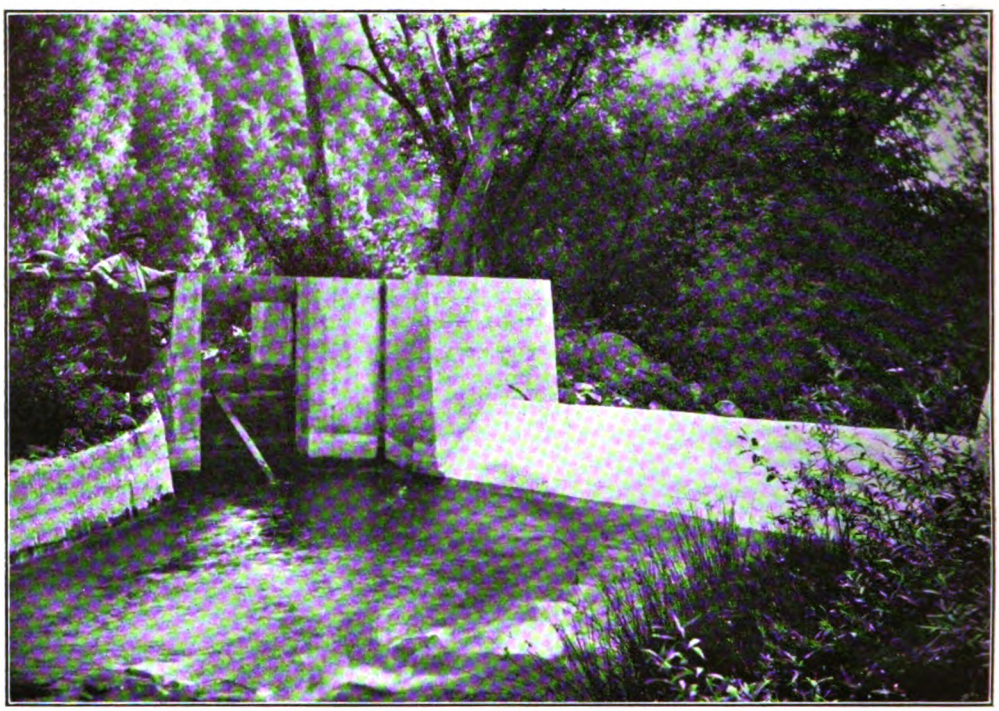

Headworks of the Tule River plant, showing at the left, headgate controlling flow into the ditch, and on the right, the overflow headgate and concrete spillway

with tremendous force through a pressure pipe into the generating machines below.

With this outline of the general plan completed, the first essential element in the construction of a power plant is the survey and construction of wagon roads. Up to this time the only means of getting into these rugged mountains was over the horseback trails, and the trail up this particular canyon was one of the roughest in all the mountains.

The building of a good wagon road, on grades that would enable the transportation of all supplies and finally the heavy machinery to be installed in the power house, single pieces of which weigh about fifteen tons, was a serious undertaking. It involved the expenditure of many thousands of dollars, as about twenty miles of such road would be necessary in the completion of the entire plant.

Mr. D. L. Wishon did practically all of the surveying in connection with the plant and the road, and he has had charge of all the road construction and the building of about eight miles of conduit, nearly all of which is tunnel through solid rock.

After preliminary and final surveys to determine the physical conditions at various heads, a pressure of 1550 feet was finally decided as the most practical and the conduit lines were staked out and work begun on the slow and tedious job of driving nearly seven miles of tunnel through the hard granite along the almost inaccessible mountain sides.

Pending the issuance of permits by the United States Forest Service, the roads were built up the main river to the Forks, where the power house is located, and on up the Doyle Branch to the point of diversion on the Doyle Ranch. On this ranch is located the widely known Doyle's Soda Spring, and a splendid apple orchard. The place also contained several million feet of pine timber. The ranch was purchased and as soon as the road was completed a sawmill was established

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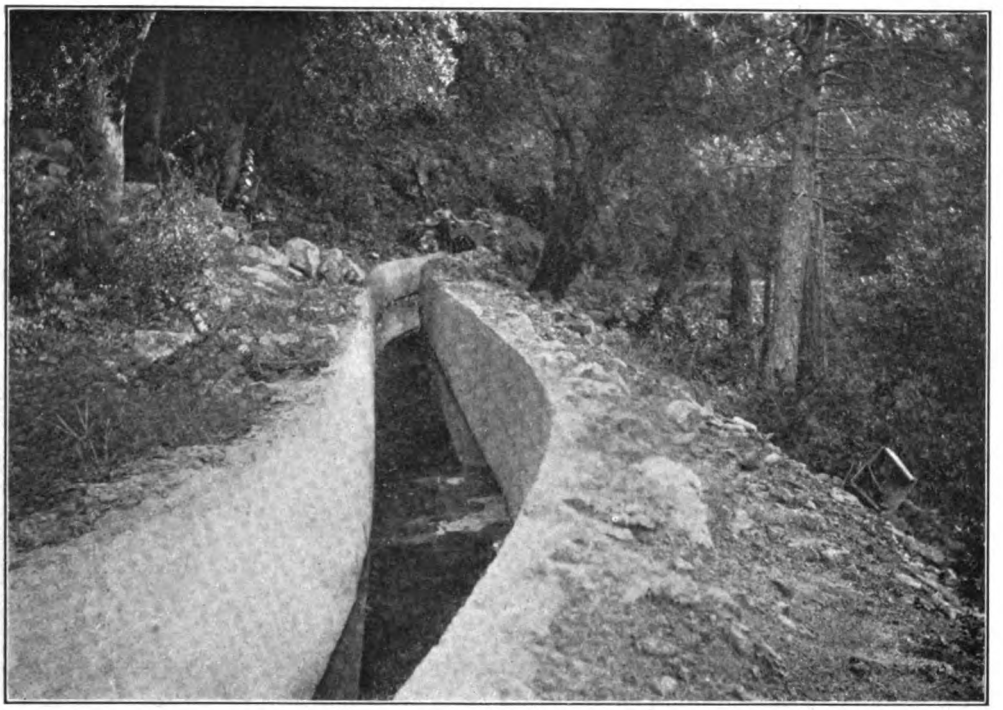

The concrete intake ditch leading to the upper end of Tunnel 1

with which to cut the lumber necessary for tunnel construction, cement forms, camp houses, bridges and other construction uses. With the completion of the plant the Doyle Ranch will pass to the ownership of a Country Club whose members are residents of Porterville and many other valley towns. Located at the upper end of probably the best graded mountain road in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, this ranch is the ideal spot for such a club as its scenery is superb and its soda springs and apple orchard are advantages worth many miles of travel to enjoy. It is at an elevation of 4100 feet, its slopes are beautifully timbered, in its streams is an abundance of trout and it is in proximity to the trails leading to the higher mountains and the fishing and hunting country reaching to the Big Kern. Before the building of the road up the Tule River canyon the old Tule River Hunting and Fishing Association owned what they then called a club house. It was reached, when the river was fordable, by crossing it twice over bad roads and treacherous fords, but with the completion of the power plant road and the advent of the automobile the hot stretches in the low altitude of the oak belt ceased to be attractive and the members have practically abandoned it and will take up new quarters at a better elevation in the tall timber at the Doyle Ranch. Club houses will be built, the streams will be kept stocked with the famous mountain trout, and nature, which has been so kind to this locality, will be assisted in every way possible to ultimately make this place famous throughout the state.

The Tule River is distinctive as compared with the other rivers in the region as the variation of its flow is the least of any of the streams. While in volume it is not as great as some other streams that head in the same mountains, it maintains a better average throughout the year, the gauge reports showing that it neither gets as high or as low, carrying a more uniform head of water. Of the two branches the Doyle is the largest and

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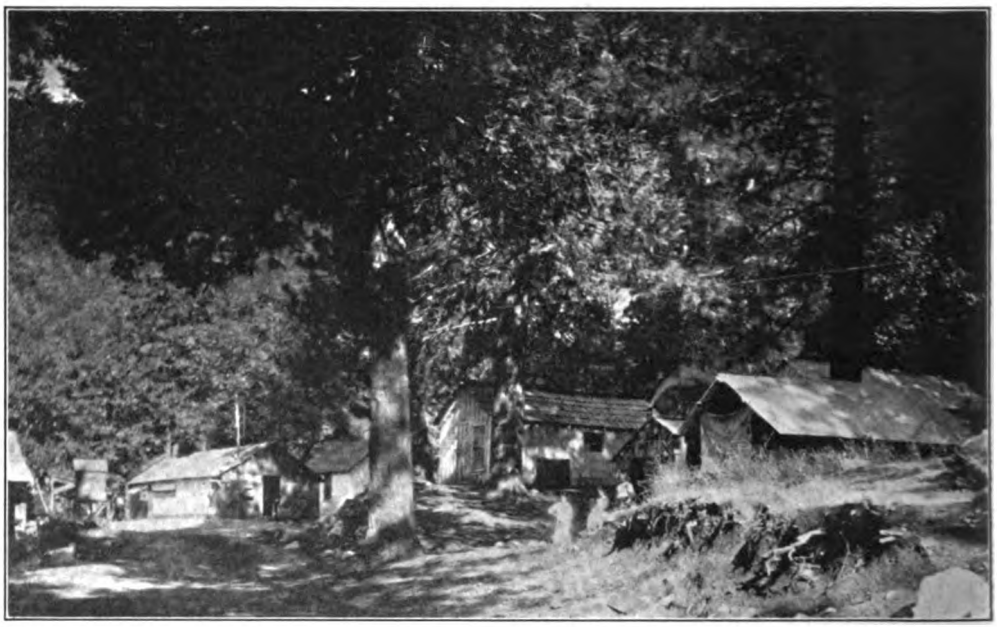
in designing the conduit systems, to the Doyle Branch tunnel line a capacity of about forty second feet was given, while the Nelson Branch line will carry some less.

The feature of reservoir storage has been entirely eliminated in the new plant, the water being run directly from the river to the forebay at the head of the pressure pipe line where a sufficient storage capacity has been provided to care for fluctuations of the load over short periods. The surplus water will be returned to the river over a spillway at the right of the pipe line. There will be no open ditch on the line and the loss of water from evaporation and trouble from debris going through the tunnels will be reduced to a minimum.

The Doyle survey from the top of the hill, which has an elevation of 4000 feet, carried the tunnel line through the mountain side a distance of 3.21 miles to the place of intake on the old Doyle Ranch. From penstock to intake the tunnel line is 16,960 feet in length. There are twenty-six distinct tunnels, varying in length from 100 to 1900 feet, each driven through solid granite formation while the link connecting any two is a covered arched concrete ditch, making the whole one great continuous tunnel. The tunnel line has been built with a fall of seven and one-half feet to the mile, hence giving the intake an elevation of a little more than twenty-one feet more than the top of the hill.

At the time the road construction began, early in 1903, the nearest railroad point was Porterville, a distance of twenty-six miles from the power house site at the Forks. During the year 1912, a branch railroad was constructed from Porterville to Springville, reducing the wagon haul for heavy machinery and the heavy pipe line to eight miles, and thereby saving a large amount in the ultimate cost of the plant.

Many problems have to be met and solved in the construction of this as well as almost all other mountain power plants. Rights of way for roads, conduits and pole lines must be secured and in the construction of this plant these troubles were encountered.



A section of Camp 1, showing the type of buildings erected. The camp is ideal in every respect

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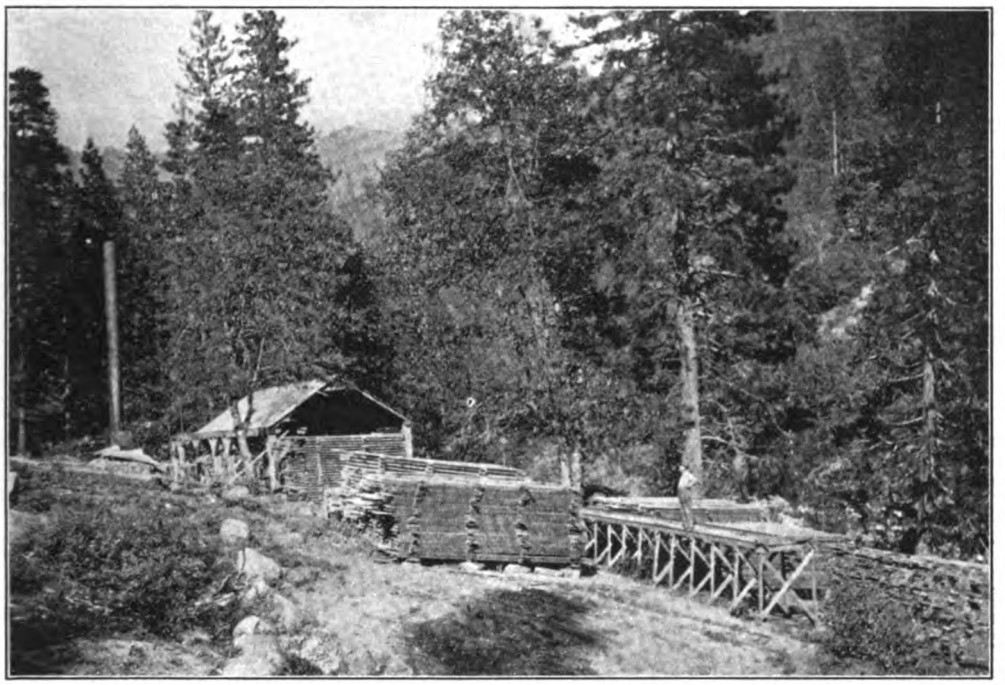
To get across one ranch it was necessary to purchase the property, as the owner asked the same price for the ranch as he did for the rights of way. This company immediately sold the ranch for the same price paid for it, reserving the necessary rights of way, and today the value of the same ranch is several times the amount of its purchase price, due largely to the development of the industries of that locality which until then had lay dormant.

The work of tunnel building began in a small way, as only two men can work in each tunnel head at one time. The time of completion of the whole plant, therefore, was to be governed by the time erquired to complete the longest tunnel.

In order to start the tunnel operations, the building of pack trails, over which powder, tools, supplies and considerable machinery have been transported by mules, was necessary. Here again was demonstrated the important part this faithful animal takes in the development of our proud civilization.

It was not until 1912 that machine drills were installed—the first and preliminary work having been done by hand drilling—and since that time work has gone on steadily night and day, being conducted by an average force of about 250 men.

The early work was accompanied with much difficulty. There was no bridge across the river and no road on the other side, and hence every bit of lumber, powder, cement, pipe and other material used in the work had to be packed to the scene of operations on the backs of mules and horses. This was a tremendous undertaking. Owing to the rocky and rugged character of the canyon, the trails were long and dangerous and if an animal lost its footing it was doomed to certain death by a fall of several hundred feet down a sheer precipice. Lumber and pipe, which were used in great quantity, were very difficult to handle and after the work of concreting began and electricity was installed to facilitate operations, the moving of bulky con-



The sawmill on the Doyle Ranch which has cut the lumber used in construction. The picture gives an idea of the size of the timber in the locality.

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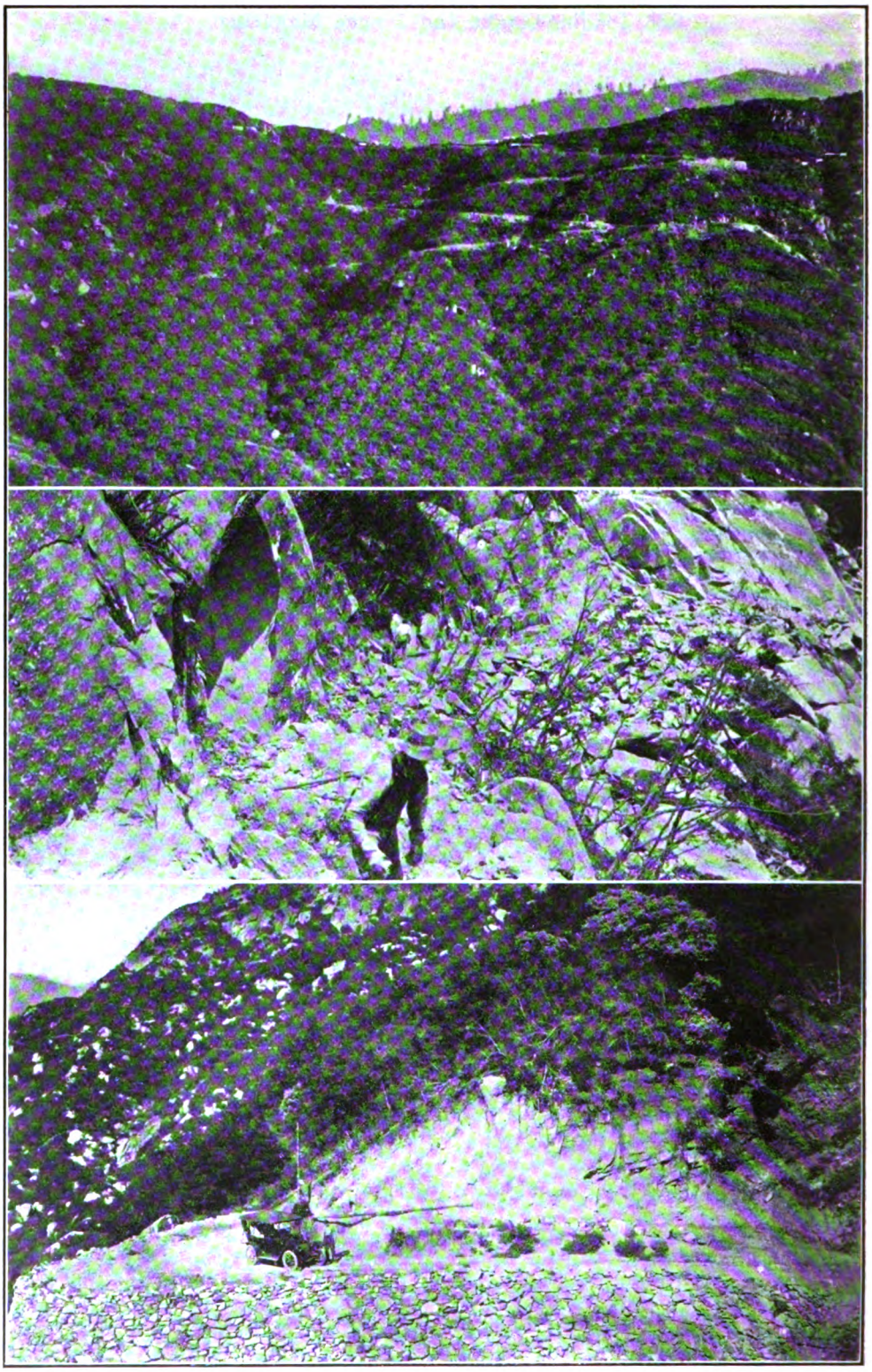

Road building for the Tule River plant. Upper: View of the road leading to top of the hill. Middle: Character of country through which the road was built, a good illustration of the difficulties that had to be contended with. Lower: "Figure 8" turn on the winding road showing method of building switchback out over the mountain side.

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crete mixers, transformers and motors offered problems to worry the packers. This work was always carefully done and was free from accident. One winter, however, when the trails were covered with snow, a horse laden with two fat porkers lost its footing and plunged several hundred feet through the air, coming to its death instantly when it hit below, even though the side of the mountain was covered to a depth of several feet with snow. The snow, however, proved to be a protection for the porkers and they were soon rescued little the worse for the experience. The fall in pork did not in any way influence the men's taste for that particular camp delicacy.

The dimensions of all tunnel excavations, with the exception of Tunnels 25 and 26 at the lower end of the line, were four by seven feet so as to permit concreting and cementing. However, when finally completed, the interior measurement is three by six feet. The walls extend perpendicular to a height of four feet six inches and are finished with a true arch, which brings the height of the tunnel to the regulation six-foot mark. The Nelson Branch line will ultimately join the Doyle Branch line near the lower end of Tunnel 24. Accordingly the width of Tunnel 25 is increased to five feet, but the height is unchanged. Tunnel 26, however, which is to be under twelve feet pressure, is still wider, being six by six feet. The perpendicular walls of these two tunnels are four feet in height and are then arched. Concrete arched ditches are constructed between tunnels. At several intervals along the line, manholes have been provided in these covered ditches in the event that it becomes necessary to make an interior inspection. The possibility of any accident is entirely remote, however, as the type of construction makes the tunnel line practically impervious to the elements.

Concreting began in 1908 and the first section to receive attention was the ditch between the headgate and the upper end of Tunnel 1. This is five hundred feet in length, four feet wide at the bottom and three feet at the top. It is practically five feet in depth. The headworks consist of the headgates, to regulate the flow into the ditch, and a dam and spillway eighteen feet long and five feet high. The entire structure is of cement and, with the ditch, has stood for the past five years. Although open at present, the ditch will be covered by the time the plant is in operation. This concrete work is in perfect condition and during the years it has stood not the slightest crack has occurred to impair its strength.

The concrete mixer was installed at the lower end of Tunnel 3, the most accessible place for the work. The cement was hauled by wagon from Porterville to Camp 1. The granite rock, brought out as muck from the tunnels, was used in the mixture and water was obtained through a two-inch pipe line from Ross Creek, a mile further up the canyon. Concrete and cement were supplied from this plant, being hauled in small iron cars for the finishing of the upper tunnels as far down as Tunnel 11, which, however, was not to be driven until the installation of the electric machinery.

In June of 1912 came the orders to rush the work. Twelve of the twenty-six tunnels had been completed and work up to this time had been going on with the central supply and commissary at Camp 1. As the work progressed, the trail over which all of the packing and hauling of materials had to be done, was gradually extended until at this time it was about two miles from the headquarters camp. The demands of the future work would be far greater than those of the past. The railroad in the meantime had been extended from Porterville to Springville and arrangements had been made for the use of electric power on construction work.

The top of Pipe Line Hill was to be the center of activity of the work yet to be done. By trail this was five miles from headquarters at Camp 1. It was on the pinnacle of a ridge 1550 feet elevation above the river, and was inaccessible except by the trail running up the mountain side. To further the work it was necessary to build a road up the mountain side, connect-

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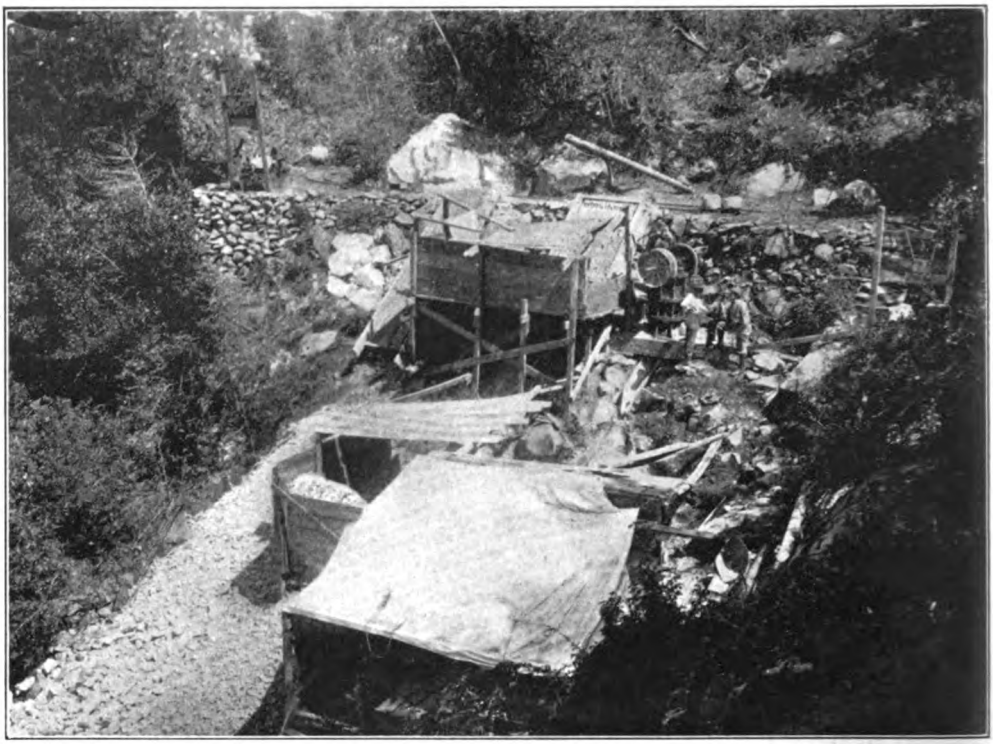

The concrete mixer and rock crusher plant at the lower end of Tunnel 12. The track leading to the incline and the electrically operated hoist are shown at the left. The mixer is housed in the canvas covered structure in the foreground.

ing with the main road on the opposite side of the river. This road had to start at the river's edge and, to gain the height of 1550 feet, find a way around the gullies and hills of the approach most advantageous for the climb up the steep mountain. To do this meant the building of two and one-half miles of road. And it was road building of the hardest type. A grade of ten per cent, with one pitch of twelve and one-half per cent, was maintained. Two very graceful curves were engineered before the real work of climbing was begun. These curves have been named the Hairpin Turn and the Horseshoe Bend. In order to make the climb up the mountain, three switchbacks were built. The construction of this part of the road is unique. It affords a scenic effect that can be equaled but in few places in the country. The road itself as viewed from the opposite side of the side is a remarkable sight. The character of the switchbacks has earned for them a name each. The first one is called "The Turntable" because of the fact that the complete turn is made before the ascending road is again gained. The second turn is "The Figure Eight," the road crossing itself in such a manner. The uppermost turn is "The O," the road making a complete circle and thus continuing on its way at the same point where the deflection began. A striking example of the roadbuilder's art, this road up the mountain side has attracted widespread attention and some day, when the conditions for travel over it are more favorable, it will undoubtedly become one of the most popular scenic drives in the valley.

With the completion of the new road early in the spring of the present year, the problem of transportation for Pipe Line hill was solved and Camp 4 was immediately established there. Here the commissary and supply depots

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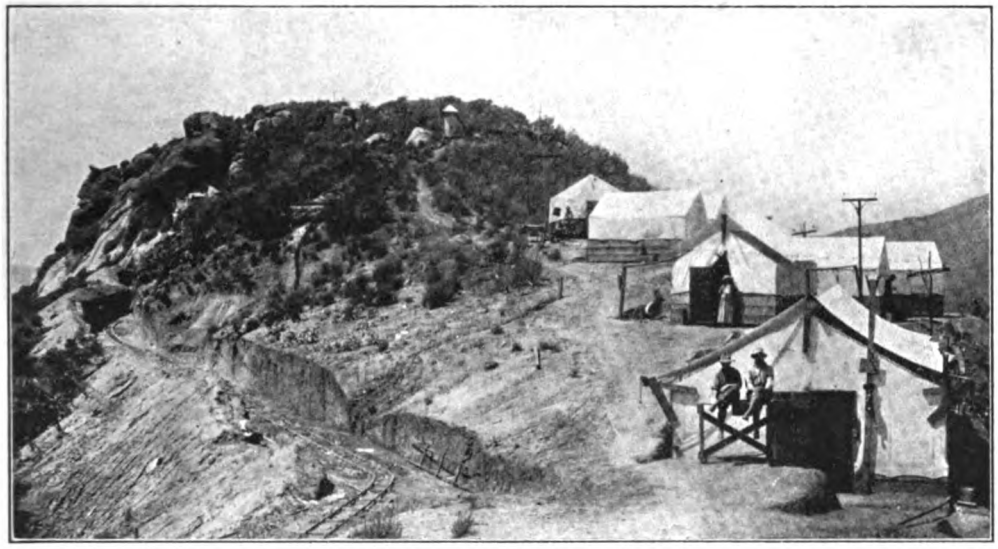
were installed and the camp was at once equipped for the completion of the work at this end.

However, the summer before had seen the establishment of Camps 2 and 3 where work had begun on the section between the completed part and Pipe Line Hill. Camp 2 was located on the side of the mountain on top of Tunnel 14, while Camp 3 likewise is anchored high above the bed of the river far out on an edge of the ridge. It is on top of Tunnel 19.

The narrow winding trail, which has its beginning at Camp 1, has been continued all the way around to Camp 4 and connects the middle camps. This trail is five miles in length whereas the tunnel line bored through the mountains is little more than three and one-fifth miles long. Camp 2 is two miles distant by trail from Camp 1 and three miles from Camp 4 while Camp 3 is one mile distant from Camp 2. Until April, when the winding road was completed and the base of supplies was transferred to Camp 4, all of the packing to Camps 2 and 3 was done from the upper camp. However, when the hill top camp was opened, the packing was done from there. The trail is the only means of travel and as the work was pushed forward the labors of the packers were correspondingly increased. To plan the delivery of supplies for the cook houses, coal for blacksmiths, powder for the tunnel work, lumber, air and water pipes, and numerous other necessities of the job so there would be no delay in any branch of the work, was no small undertaking.

With the installation of electricity, the tunnel work was greatly facilitated by the introduction of electric drills. No opportunity has been lost to make use of electricity wherever possible and motors were at once installed on the concrete mixers, the rock crushers, in the blacksmith shop, the big air compressor furnishing power for four drills, the blowers in the tunnels and all of the camp buildings and tunnels were provided with electric lights.

When first established a water supply for Camp 4 was a problem. Springs higher in the mountains afforded a supply for Camp 3 and Camp 2 was supplied by a pipe line through the tunnels. The river was the only available



View on top of Pipe Line Hill looking toward Tunnel 26 and showing excavation for redwood pipe line to connect lower Tunnel 25 with upper Tunnel 26. The tent in the foreground is the commissary of Camp 4 while in the rear are the offices and living quarters. The trail over the hill goes to the lower end of Tunnel 26. The elevation of this camp is 4000 feet and 1550 feet above the river.

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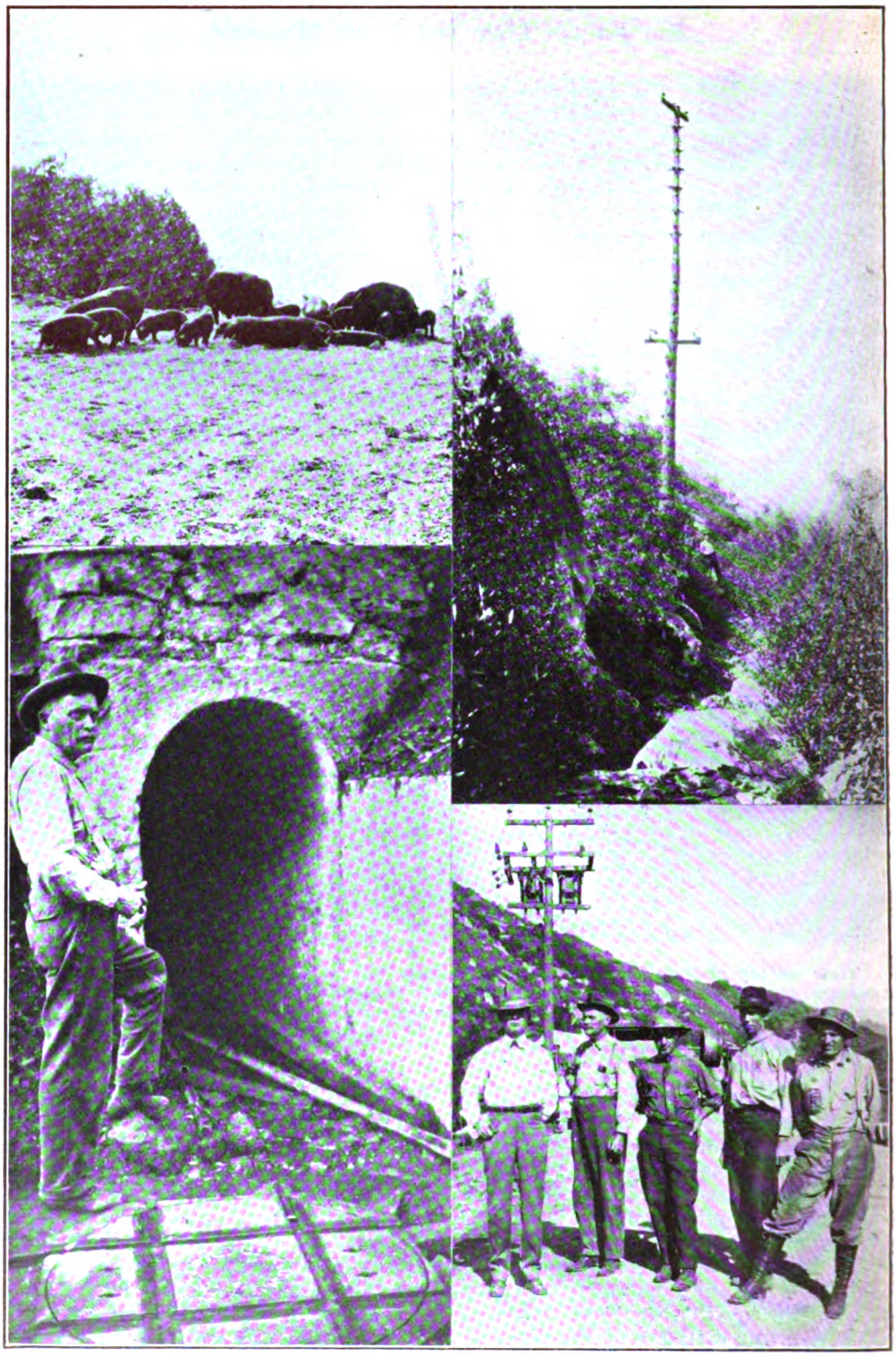

Upper left: Pigs on Pipe Line Hill which dispose of the garbage problem and give fresh meat for the table. Upper right: How trees were pressed into service in building the electric transmission line. Lower left: View at the lower portal of Tunnel 3 and turntable on the tunnel track line. Lower right: Part of the executive force handling the work at Camp 4.

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source for Camp 4, but it meant raising the water more than 1550 feet. A 3x4 inch Fairbanks Morse triple plunger pump and air compressor were installed at the river's edge and a two-inch pipe line was laid to the top of the hill. From the early part of April to the middle of August this pump supplied the water at the rate of ten gallons a minute. However, as the tunnel line neared completion, it was able to extend the water line from the upper end and hence relieve the heavy expense of pumping.

With the introduction of the electric drill, Tunnel 11 was finished. This tunnel is 1900 feet in length and is driven through a hill of solid granite. It is as straight as the skill of engineers could make it. Upon its completion a photograph was taken from the upper end, and the opening at the lower portal shows clearly on the print. The tunneling crews worked from each end and as the time drew near for them to meet, the speculation as to how near they would hit was the only topic considered in the camps for days. The progress of every shift was carefully noted and, long before the barrier was broken down, the men in charge were confident that the holes would not vary an inch. And they did not. As each crew was drilling its set of holes for the last shot they broke through the wall and conversations were held through the openings.

In addition to the electric drills compressed air drills were used in the lower end of Tunnel 24, all of Tunnel 25 and the upper end of Tunnel 26. The compressor plant, driven by an electric motor, is located at Camp 4.

Two concrete mixers are being operated in completing the work. One is set up at the lower end of Tunnel 12 and the other at the lower end of Tunnel 25. Both are operated by electric motors as are the rock crushers operated in connection.

The operation of the mixer at Tunnel 12 is very interesting. It is at a point on the mountain side to which it is impossible to deliver supplies except through the completed part of the tunnel. All of the cement used is hauled by wagon from Springville to the lower end of Tunnel 3 where it is transported on cars through the tunnels to the mixer. The rock and sand used in making the concrete is the muck from the tunnels, and in order to obtain the same at this point it has been necessary to construct an inclined railway leading to the dump several hundred feet below the level of the tunnel. An electric hoist operates the cars on the incline and as the loaded car is brought to the surface, its contents are dumped onto a screen where the different sizes of rock are separated. The small stuff or sand particles is carried off by means of a chute, the next larger pieces have another alley and the still larger pieces go to the rock crusher. The mixer is located on a platform directly over the tunnel tracks and the cars to be loaded are brought into position below the loading platform to receive their cargo from above. At the other mixer at Tunnel 25, on the top of the hill, the problem is simpler as the cement is brought up the hill in wagons. The rock for the mixture is obtained by the use of a hoist from the dump.

For several months past the hauling of cement through the tunnels to the mixer at Tunnel 12 has been done by a gasoline traction engine, the output of the machine shops of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation in Fresno. When this concrete plant was placed in operation, the plant which had done service for a number of years at Tunnel 3 was abandoned. There was no further use for the old gasoline concrete mixer so the engine was converted into a traction engine. The engine in the old mixer was a single cylinder upright of two and one-half horsepower. Shop Superintendent Tony Rose was put on the job and after a great deal of ingenuous planning, which was necessary to keep the size of the tractor small enough to get through the tunnels, the vehicle was completed. Being a friction drive, and hence lacking a clutch, it was impossible to reverse the engine. Turntables were installed at the terminals of its run and before it can proceed in the opposite direction the miniature locomotive must be

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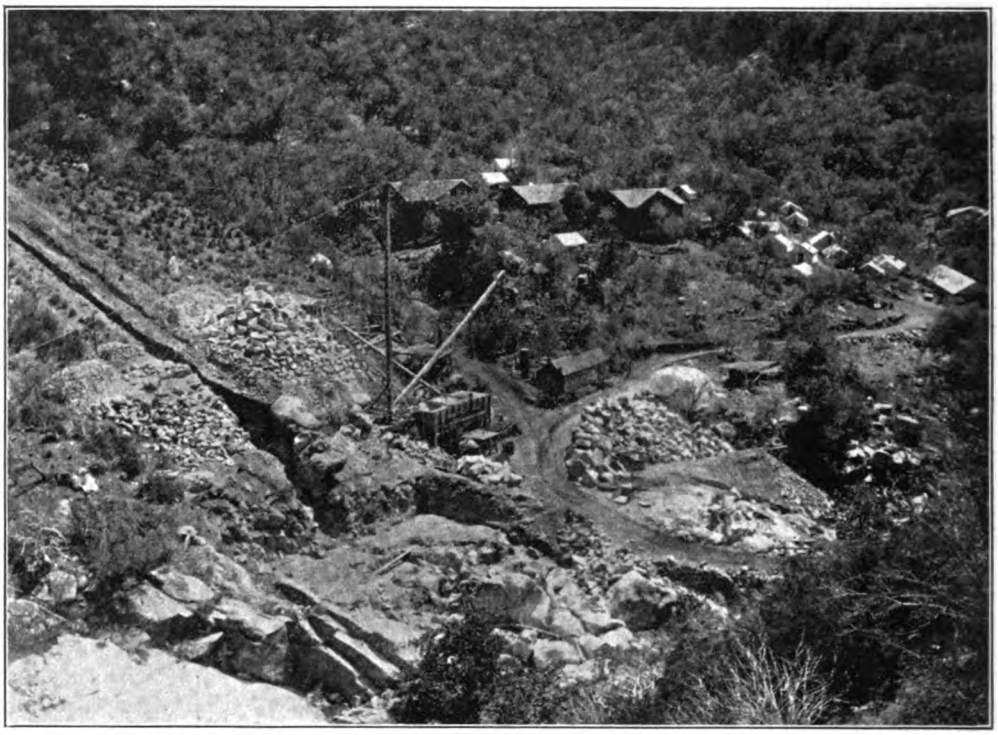

The site of the power house and camp of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation. The three cottages are permanent and will house the power plant operators

nosed around. It is capable of carrying 1600 pounds to a load and makes seven trips daily. In the day time it hauls cement and at night concrete. To light its way through the dark tunnel line, it is equipped with a "Bug" or "Cousin Jack." The engine is one of the curiosities of the works but nevertheless has demonstrated its worth many times over.

Tunnel 26, which terminates in a surge tank or forebay, will be under twelve feet pressure. The upper portal of this tunnel is 822 feet distant from the lower portal of Tunnel 25, and a redwood pipe six feet in diameter will connect the two. The forebay, on account of the limitations of the site, will have only sufficient storage capacity to care for fluctuations of the load over short periods. The tank will be circular in section, approximately thirty feet in diameter by twenty foot in depth. It will be constructed of reinforced concrete and will embody in its design ample overflow or spillway section, screen surface and settling basis for sand and other debris. The discharge will be regulated by two hand and motor operated remote electrically controlled gate valves, which may be operated either from the power house or from the valve and screen platform supported by the tank.

Water will be discharged from the bottom of the tank at the elevation of 3980 feet into a pressure pipe or penstock of lap welded steel. The penstock will be approximately 3600 feet in length, tapering from thirty-six inches in diameter at the top to thirty inches at the bottom, and increasing in thickness from one-quarter of an inch to seven-eighths of an inch at the lower end, which will be at an approximate elevation of 2457 feet or a gross head of 1523 feet. Just inside the power house this pipe will split into a "Y," each leg of which will include a hydraulically operated gate valve capable of controlling the flow at the rather unusual pressure, even for Cal-

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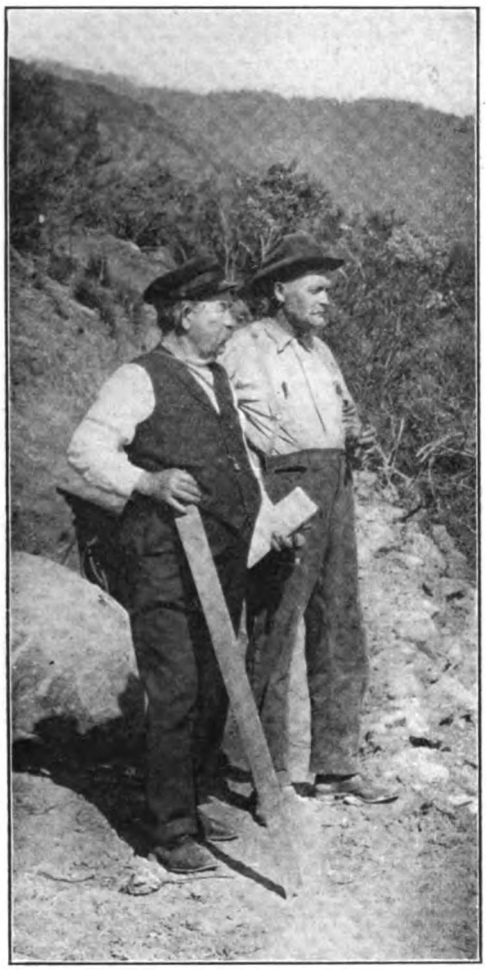

At the left, Mr. G. O. Newman, chief engineer of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, and on the right, Mr. D. L. Wishon, engineer in charge of the construction of the Tule River plant, inspecting the work on Pipe Line Hill. The day was hot and the climb a steep one, so when he came across a scantling on the trail Mr. Newman took advantage of it as a walking stick. He bears the reputation of being an excellent mountain climber.

ifornia, of 660 pounds to the square inch. The penstock is of German manufacture and is furnished by the Pelton Water Wheel Company of San Francisco.

The formation of the mountain above the power house is rugged, consisting principally of boulders and disintegrated granite, but it was fortunately possible to secure an unusually favorable location for the penstock, both in plan and profile. As will be readily understood, when the relative length and difference in elevation of the ends of the line are considered, the trench is extremely steep in places, making it necessary to use extraordinary pracaution during excavation to protect laborers from falling rock.

The power house will be situated on the Doyle Branch, a short distance above its confluence with the Nelson Branch. The power house floor will be about seventeen feet above mean low water. The building will be forty feet six inches in width, sixty-five feet four inches in length and thirty-three feet from floor to eaves. It will be constructed of steel and concrete. The walls will have a rather large propor-

Looking through Tunnel 11, which is 1900 feet in length and driven straight through a mountain of solid granite. The white spot in the center of the arch is the portal and reflection at the opposite end.

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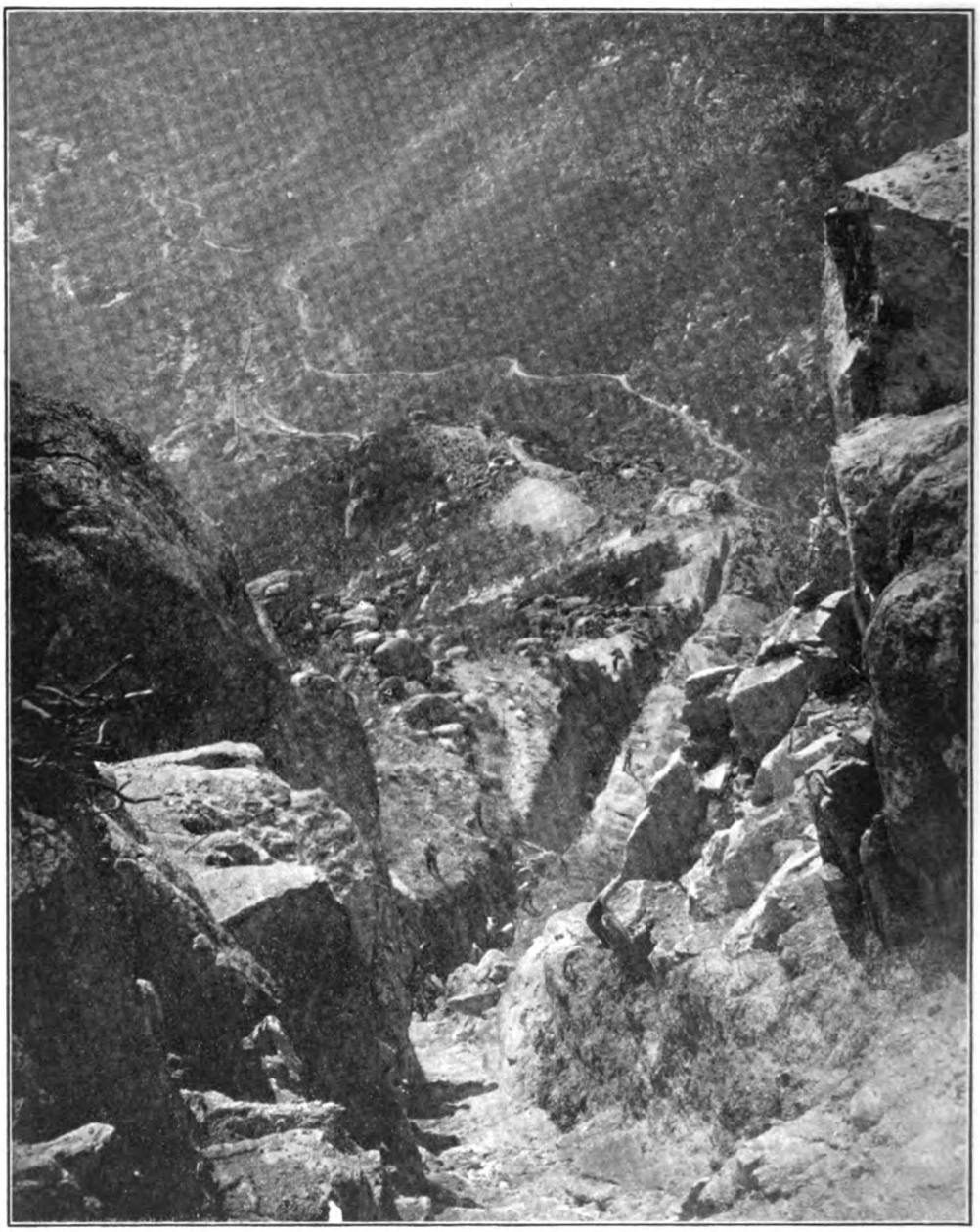

Looking down the penstock excavation from the top of the hill, showing men at work in the ditch and the steep and rocky cut

tion of glazed area with the view of giving ample lighting and ventilation.

The machinery installation will consist of 2-3000 k. v. a. 2300 volt 60 cycle 3 phase alternating current generators each direct connected to a 5000 horsepower impulse or tangential water wheel, and will operate at 400 r. p. m. Each unit will be self contained with an overhung direct connected exciter, each exciter being of sufficient capacity to excite both generating units.

The transformer equipment will consist of 3-2000 k. v. a. single phase water

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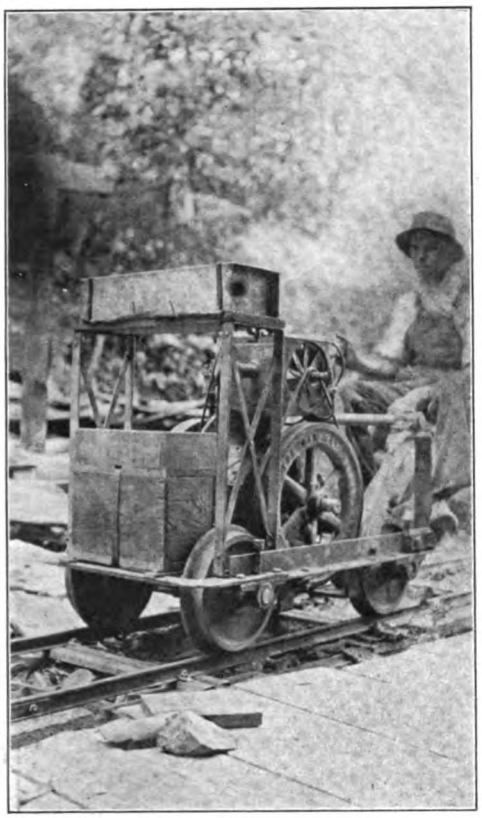

The home-made traction engine for hauling cement and concrete through the tunnel line.

cooled transformers, rated at 2300-40/69,000 Y volts, with one similar unit in reserve. Due to the characteristics of the water in the Doyle Branch, it was necessary to arrange for cooling these machines by externally circulating the oil in the water, the reverse of the usual procedure.

The electrical switching and control equipment will be similar in design to that already standardized by the company and will include 60,000 volt electrolytic lightning arrestors. One outgoing 60,000 volt circuit will be equipped at present, provision being made for a second circuit if it should become desirable to add this at a later date. The power house equipment from penstock to tail race and outgoing circuits will be furnished by the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company of Milwaukee.

The construction work of the Tule River plant was divided into two sections, the driving of the tunnel lines, and the building of the pipe line and power house. The tunnel line is under the supervision of Mr. D. L. Wishon. The other section of the work is in charge of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, whose responsibilities begin at the point where the tunnel ends. The excavations for the penstock and the power house site were made by them. A well equipped camp, including permanent cottages of modern design which are to be occupied by the power house operators when the plant is placed in operation, has been established at the forks of the river. Mr. Kermack has been in charge of the work at this point for the J. G. White Engineering Corporation; Mr. Hewins the supervising engineer.

The power house will be tied in with the distribution system of the San Joaquin Light and Power Cor-

An apple tree on the Doyle Ranch

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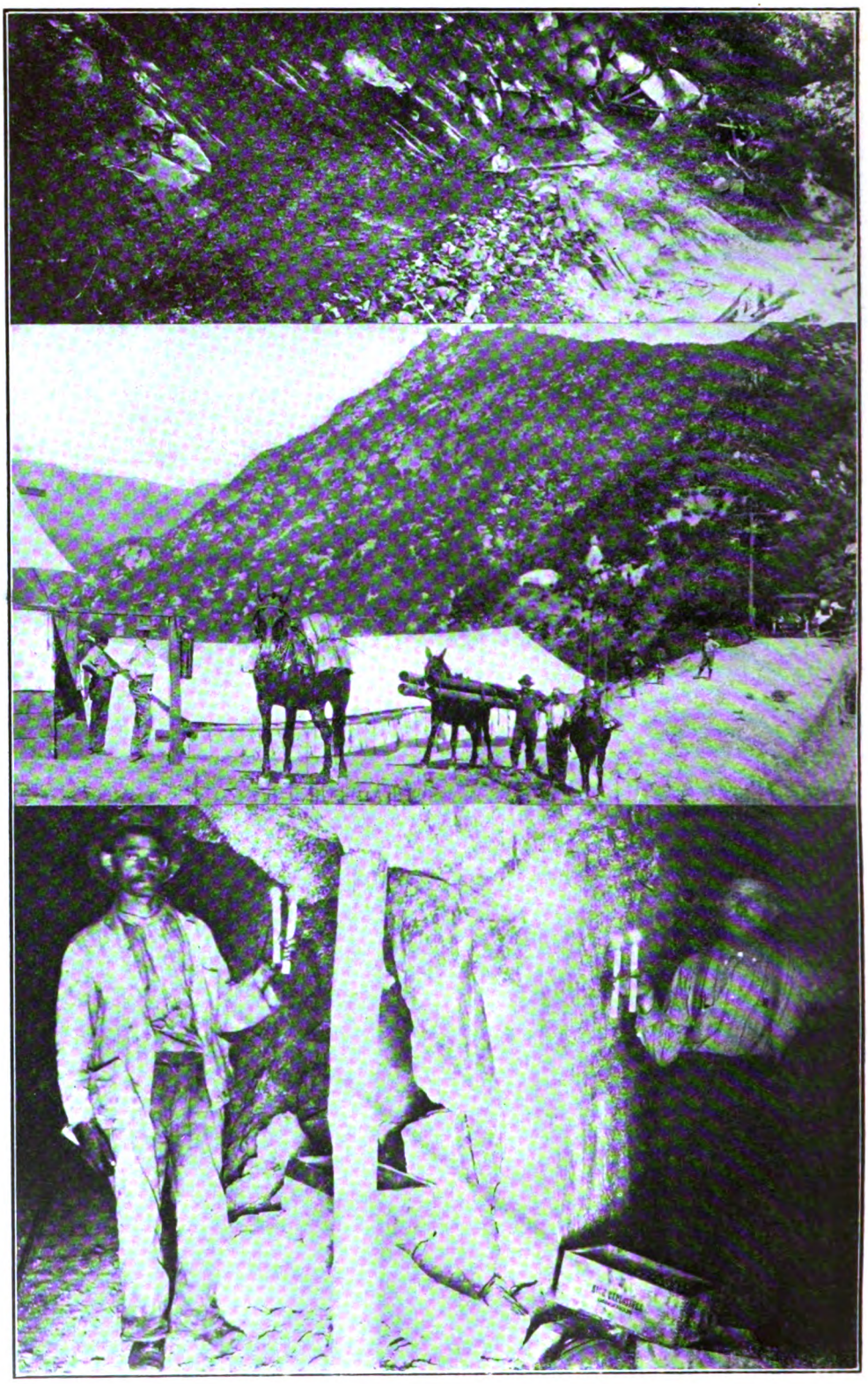

Upper: Method of covering sections between tunnels. Location of manhole is shown in the center of the view. Middle: Louie Milanovich, the packer, leaving Camp 4 for the lower end of Tunnel 26. The first mule is loaded with dynamite, the second with pipe and the third with drill steel. Lower: The point in Tunnel 24 where the Doyle Branch and Nelson Tunnels unite.

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poration at Strathmore, where a switching station has been installed on the east side of the 60,000 volt loop around the San Joaquin Valley.

On a construction work of this kind, which extended over so long a period as the tunnel building, there are always a number of employees who stand out preeminently because of their faithfulness to the job and the high character of the services rendered.

A number of the present foremen began on the job as laborers and secured promotion through faithful and efficient service, and some of the foremen now working have held their positions during the whole term of the construction.

Before the first of the year the Tule River plant will be aiding in the work of supplying electricity for the great system of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation. Although not a tremendous undertaking, when compared with some of the power projects of the present day, it is second to none in type of construction and is expected to operate with the very highest degree of efficiency. It is the source of a great satisfaction, representing as it does, the realization of plans of its originators laid many years ago.

How the Counties of California Received Their Names and What They Mean

Few states have an array of county names of more specific historical or other local interest and charm than the county names of California. In "California, Its History and Romance" we read that Alameda county, for example, is named from the word which means a public walk or promenado; from the word alamo, the poplar or cotton street. Alpine county is of course found in the lofty Sierras. Amador is the name of a prominent settler of the state, but the word means "lover of inanimate objects." Butte is named for the remarkable buttes or isolated hills, called the Sutter Buttes, in Sutter county.

Contra Costa county is so named because it is the opposite coast from San Francisco. Del Norte is of course one of the northern counties. El Dorado was named with the other twenty-six first counties in 1850. Gold was first discovered in this region. El Dorado was the name given to the wonderful land of milk and honey, ready-baked bread and ready-roasted fowls, gold and jewels, described by a companion of Pizarro and located by him in South America.

Fresno means ash tree. Glenn is named for a man who raised much wheat well known in the life of the state. Humboldt bay and county are named for the great naturalist, Alexander von Humboldt. Inyo is named for the Indians. Kern is the name of a lieutenant in General Fremont's command. Kings county is named from a stream called "river of the holy kings" in Spanish by an exploring party in 1805. Lake county is named for its own lakes, and Lassen county bears the name of Peter Lassen, a Swiss trapper, mountaineer and Indian fighter of the old days.

The name Los Angeles is explained as a contraction of the name given by the Spanish "puebla del rio nuestra Sonora la reina de los angeles de Porciucula." The pueblo came to be known as "Ciudad de Los Angeles," city of angels.

Madera means timber and the county was named from a town there, surrounded by trees. Marin county is named for a famous Indian chief who was Christianized under the name of Mariner, because of his intimate knowledge of the bay of San Francisco. Mariposa means butterfly in Spanish and the river and county were named either because so many butterflies were found there or because the calochortus, a beautiful lily, was called the mariposa.

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Mendocino county is named for the cape which was called thus by the explorer Cabrillo in 1542 in honor of Mendoza, the first viceroy of New Spain or Mexico, appointed by the Spanish king in 1535. Napa means fish in Indian. Placer is named from that method of mining for gold and that came from the words plaza de oro, place of gold. Plumas county means feather, from the original name of the river, Rio de las Plumas. Sacramento means sacrament. Shasta is variously said to be of Indian origin, meaning cave dwellers and the French word chaste, referring to the whiteness of the wonderful peak. Sierra is from the Spanish word for saw and refers to the jagged outline of the mountains. Siskiyou is said to be an Indian name and also to come from the French words six callioux, or six stones, referring to a ford in the river. Solano is an east wind, but the name is also that of a Spanish missionary. Sonoma is an Indian word, meaning valley of the moon.

Sutter county is named for John Sutter, the Swiss lumberman, who called his first settlement New Helvetia. It is now the city of Sacramento. Tulare is from the Spanish name for bullrushes with which the lake was surrounded. Tuolumne means in Indian, stone houses or caves. Ventura is from the town, San Buena Ventura (good fortune). Yolo is an Indian name referring to rushes and Yuba is a corruption of the Spanish word meaning wild grape. The other counties are chiefly Indian names, or are prefixed by "San," meaning saint, and the meaning and origin of the others are sufficiently clear in themselves.

Comment Regarding the Pumping Plant

Throughout the whole length and breadth of California thousands of acres of fertile land are being put under water by the use of pumps. The greatest activity is, of course, outside of the gravity irrigation projects, yet in several sections wells have been put down to provide against shortage of water from the gravity system. Having insufficient water for irrigation is almost as bad as having none at all, and one of our greatest problems in agricultural waste is caused by enforced idleness of the soil through lack of water. The investment of a few hundred dollars in a well and pumping outfit is marking the beginning of success on many a farm today.—Live Stock and Dairy Journal.

Some good comes out of every evil. The lack of rainfall this year has stimulated the business of installing pumping plants, and the next few years is going to see a marked advance in this method of irrigation.

In this county, for instance, the McFarland colony is an oasis in the desert this year. There is a pumping plant on every sub-division and each farmer has green fields, an abundance of shade, profitable crops, while the man who depended on the rainfall or placed his reliance in water from the canals is facing a hard year.

Electricity and cheap fuel have made the pumping plant feasible. The Sierras give assurance of an unfailing supply of water in this valley. The day will soon be here when the pumping plants will be as numerous as the farms themselves.—Bakersfield Californian.

The alfalfa crop of the year probably will be about normal despite the dry seasons. Wherever water has been available the alfalfa has yielded bounteously, report owners of alfalfa lands. Lands irrigated by means of pumping plants have produced large crops of alfalfa this year.

West Side lands irrigated by pumping plants have come to the front this year. Alfalfa has been cut two or three times, yielding two tons to the acre.—Fresno Herald.

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Experimenting in Tulare County With the Summer Planting of Alfalfa

THAT the successful planting or sowing of alfalfa can be carried on in California during the summer months as well as in the winter months is a new advance step in agricultural development that is being tried out in Tulare county by W. A. Iden and the Midland Investment Company on a 480-acre tract of land formerly known as the Levis tract.

Recently a Register representative was shown over the tract being developed and was surprised to see what has been accomplished in this new venture, which, if successful, as it gives every promise of being, will mean the more rapid development of thousands of acres of splendid land now practically idle awaiting development under the old theory that such development can only be accomplished during the rainy months of the year, which, at best, are of comparatively short duration. If this experiment proves a success, it means that development work in the breaking up of land and sowing alfalfa can be carried on throughout the year and thus get the land under profitable production several months earlier than has heretofore been thought possible.

Wm. F. Smith and associates of the Midland Investment Company purchased the Levis tract, which is situated northwest of the Tagus ranch and two or three miles north of the famous Beckwith-Anderson tract, late last winter, and on the first of April men and teams were put to work plowing and putting down a pumping plant with a view to getting as much land planted to alfalfa as early as possible. A battery of four wells were sunk, each of them being 10-inch wells and all connected with a 20 H. P. electric pumping motor. The wells are of different depths, the deepest being about 130 feet. Each taps a separate stratum of water and develops a splendid flow of about 200 inches of water.

However, it was the last week in June that the first sowing of alfalfa was made. A tract of 90 acres was picked out for the experiment. After the first week the ground showed a rich, green covering, the tender plants sending out healthy looking leaves which give every promise of surviving. Four days after planting, the sprouts were seen just breaking through the surface. The alfalfa was planted with a drill, but before this a nurse crop had been sown broadcast over the tract. Twenty-one pounds of alfalfa was sown to the acre, while the nurse crop, consisting of barley, wheat and oats mixed, was sown at the rate of 40 pounds to the acre. The alfalfa seed is planted deep and then the ground is thoroughly rolled with a heavy steel roller, the finely pulverized dirt forming a dry mulch which keeps the moisture "canned" close to the surface for the growing seed. The experiment is being watched with much interest because upon its success depends the immediate development of a great expanse of land along the same lines.

Visalia Sugar Factory Resumes Operations

After being idle for two years the beet sugar factory at Visalia has resumed operations and employs about 125 people, half the crew being used at night and the other half in the day time. The beet crop is light owing to the dry season, and many of the beets are wormy, but the percentage of saccharine matter is up to the average, being from 16 to 20 per cent. The factory run on beets will be short this year, and just whether an experiment of refining raw cane sugar will be attempted has not been settled.

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"Edison Day"—October 21, 1913—Thirty-fourth Anniversary of the Incandescent Lamp

"EDISON DAY" is to be observed by electrical dealers and power companies in this section. The thirty-fourth anniversary of the birth of the Edison lamp is the occasion. Few of us realize that it was but such a short time ago that the first incandescent lamp was made. The wizard-like accomplishments of the inventor have subsequently overshadowed his first great work and it is fitting that we should, at this time, pause and pay simple respect to the man.

Thomas A. Edison was born at Milan, Ohio, February 11th, 1847. This pretty little village offered, at the time of Edison's father and mother moving there in 1842, many attractions as a possible Chicago. The railroad system of Ohio was still in the future, but the Western Reserve had already become a vast wheat field, and huge quantities of grain from the northern and central countries sought shipment to eastern ports. The Huron River, emptying into Lake Erie, was navigable within a few miles of the village and provided an admirable outlet. Large granaries were established, and proved so successful that local capital was tempted into the project of making a tow-path canal from Lockwood Landing all the way to Milan itself.

Samuel Edison, the father of Thomas A. Edison, versatile, buoyant of temper, and ever optimistic, would thus appear to have pitched his tent with shrewd judgment.

The coming of the railroad practically did away with the canal, and it soon became evident to Samuel Edison and his wife that the cozy brick home on the bluff must be given up and the struggle with fortune resumed elsewhere. They were well-to-do, however, and on moving in 1854 to Port Huron, Michigan, occupied a large colonial house standing in the middle of the old Government Fort Reservation of ten acres, overlooking the wide expanse of the St. Clair River, just after it leaves Lake Huron.

The great inventor, whose iron endurance and stern will have enabled him to wear down all his associates by work sustained through arduous days and sleepless nights, was not at all strong as a child, and was of fragile appearance. He had an abnormally large but well shaped head, and it is said that the local doctors feared he might have brain trouble. In fact, on account of his assumed delicacy, he was not allowed to go to school for some years, and even when he did attend for a short time the results were not encouraging; his mother being hotly indignant upon hearing that the teacher had spoken of him to an inspector as "addled."

The youth was indeed fortunate far beyond the ordinary in having a mother at once loving, well informed and ambitious, capable herself, from her experience as a teacher, of undertaking and giving him an education better than could be secured in the local schools of the day. Certain it is that under this simple regime studious habits were formed and a taste for literature developed that have lasted to this day. If ever there was a man who tore the heart out of books, it is Edison, and what has once been read by him is never forgotten, if useful or worthy of submission to the test of experiments.

Our first knowledge of Edison in commercial life is that of a newsboy on the trains of the Grand Trunk Railroad between Port Huron and Detroit. He took up this work at the age of thirteen, and began his experiments in chemistry and physics in one of the baggage cars on this train, where he maintained a laboratory, carrying all sorts of bottles, batteries, test tubes, etc. The train running one day at

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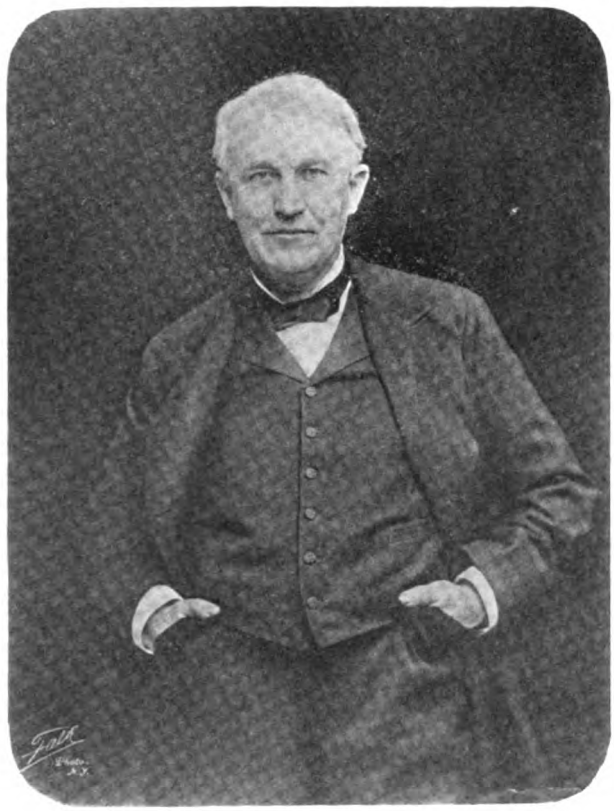
thirty miles an hour over a piece of poorly laid track was thrown suddenly out of the perpendicular with a violent lurch and, before Edison could catch it, a stock of phosphorous was jarred from its shelf, fell to the floor and burst into flame. The car took fire, and the boy in dismay was still trying to quench the blaze when the conductor, a quick tempered Scotchman, who acted as a baggage master, hastened to the scene with water and saved his car.

On the arrival at Mt. Clemons station, its next stop, Edison and his entire outfit, laboratory, printing plant and all, were promptly ejected by the enraged conductor, and the train hhen moved off, leaving him on the platform, indignant and tearful in the midst of his beloved but ruined possessions. It was through this incident that Edison acquired his deafness that has persisted all through his life; a severe box on the ears from the scorched and angry conductor being the direct cause of the infirmity. Although this deafness would be regarded as a great affliction by most people, Edison has always regarded it philosophically and claimed that it was a help to him in his work with telegraphy, as he heard only the key he was working.



Thomas A. Edison
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Mr. Edison took up telegraphy in 1862, taking a position as telegraph operator with the Grand Trunk Railroad at a salary of twenty-five dollars per month. Working as an operator for a few years, he soon reached a position which paid one hundred and twenty-five dollars a month, considered at that time to be a very high salary.

The first patent taken out by Thomas Edison was that of the electrographic volt-recorder, October 13th, 1868. After securing many patents on the telegraph, telephone and stock ticker, and numerous other devices, we find Edison beginning his experiments on the incandescent lamp in 1877.

There had been numerous, but impracticable, and commercially unsuccessful efforts by other inventors to produce electric light by incandescence and at the time he began his experiments almost the whole scientific world had pronounced such an idea as impossible of fulfillment.

The leading scientists, physicists and experts of the period had been studying the subject for more than a quarter of a century, and had proven mathematically and by close reasoning that the sub-division of electric current was beyond attainment. These opinions were but a stimulus to Edison, for he had given the subject much thought and had become impressed with strong

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convictions of possibility, and was satisfied that this sub-division was not only possible but entirely practicable.

The principal features necessary to sub-divide the electric current successfully were the burning of an indefinite number of lights on the same circuit; each light to give a useful and economical degree of illumination; each light to be independent of all others in regard to its operation and extinguishment.

The opinions of scientific men were all against Mr. Edison. From a book written by Pagen Higgs, L. L. D., D. S. C., he said: "Some inventors have claimed the power to indefinitely divide the electric current, not knowing or forgetting that such a state was incompatible with the well proven law of conservation of energy."

Mr. Edison made numerous experiments on the incandescent lamp, and finally, October 21st, 1879, after many patient trials, carbonized a piece of cotton sewing thread, bent into a loop or horseshoe form, and had it sealed into a glass globe, from which he had exhausted the air. This lamp, when put on the circuit, lighted up brightly to incandescence, and maintained its integrity for over forty hours, and Lo! the practical incandescent lamp was born. Up to this time, Edison had spent over forty thousand dollars in his electric light experiments, but the result far more than justified the expenditure.

The next immediate step was the further investigation of the possibilities of improving the quality of the carbon filament. Edison made vast experiments of carbonized paper; these proved even more successful than the carbonized thread.

Between October 21st, 1879, and December 21st, 1879, some hundreds of these paper carbon lamps had been made and put into actual use in the streets and several residences at Menlo Park, N. J., causing great excitement and bringing many visitors from far and near. Edison was not satisfied with paper carbon; he therefore began to carbonize everything in nature that he could lay his hands on. During this experimental stage he tried no less than six thousand species of vegetable growth.

One day in the early part of 1880 he noticed upon the table in the laboratory an ordinary palmleaf fan. He picked it up and in looking it over he noticed that it had a branching rib made of bamboo. He made filaments from the bamboo and found them better than anything he had tried.

The bamboo filament was used until 1893, when Mr. Edison had succeeded in making an artificial carbon from refined cotton. This replaced the bamboo, and has been in use in all carbon lamps since then.

While the Gem lamp of today is made of the same material as the Carbon, it goes through a special treatment which gives it the characteristics of the metal filament, and is preferred to the Carbon on account of its efficiency, which is greater. It is generally believed today that the Gem and Carbon lamp will soon be replaced in every case by the Mazda. The price of the Mazda lamp has been materially reduced, and has been strengthened by improvements to such an extent that it is not necessary for us to be afraid of its fragility.

It is impossible to give an account of Mr. Edison's various patents, owing to the lack of space. However, we find his wax cylinder phonograph placed on the market in 1889. He made many improvements in the phonograph and has been giving a great deal of his attention to the perfection of his Diamand Disc phonograph in the last two years, and has succeeded in obtaining the most perfect reproduction of music ever known. About the time of the phonograph's appearance, we find the motion picture being worked upon, and in 1895 moving pictures were shown upon a screen the same as we see today in our modern picture houses. Up to 1910 the principal manufacturers of motion pictures were paying a royalty to Mr. Edison under his basic patent on the moving picture machine.

Mr. Edison is working at the present time on a large number of other inventions and is busy from eighteen to twenty hours a day.

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The old Johns well drilled twenty-seven years ago and now flowing as much as at any time in the past

Developing Water on West Side—Underground Supply to Augment Gravity System

FROM the successful experience of settlers who have installed pumping plants one may assume that our lands are underlaid with a large flow of underground water at a reasonable depth. A pumping plant, at a reasonable cost, is good assurance of liberal irrigation water, which soon pays for itself, and is invaluable in dry years such as have occurred in the last and this season, when rain and snowfall has been deficient all over California."

The above expression from Mr. L. A. Nares, the manager of the several land, railroad, canal and farming companies at present developing and exploiting that section of Fresno and Kings counties known as the Kings River Delta, is the explanation for a great campaign of well drilling which has recently been launched by the concerns of which he is the head.

Although these great tracts of land have gravity water rights from the Kings River, the experience of the last two years has taught that by the succession of seasons of light rain and snow fall, areas dependent upon gravity water are apt to suffer, and so, to insure an irrigation supply from an entirely independent source, experimental wells have been put down which prove the existence of an artesian belt beneath the entire district.

Pioneer wells were drilled years and years ago but the width of the belt was not fully determined until the present summer and even yet nothing has occurred to indicate that the belt may not be greater than is now proved.

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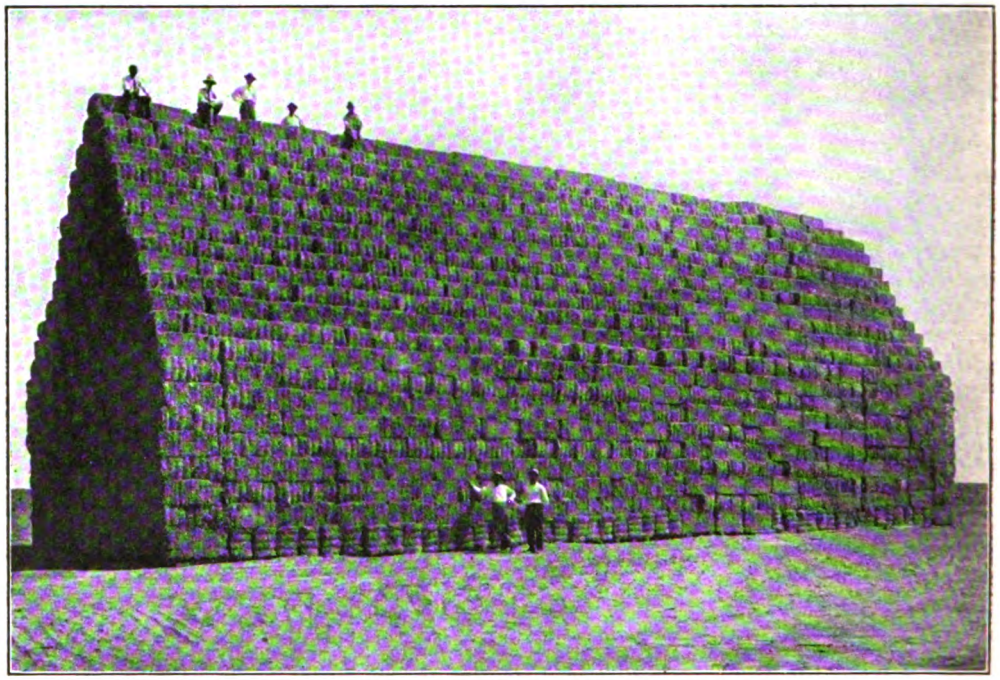
Under normal conditions there is enough water in the river and canals for the irrigation of this district, but the development of the country has reached such a stage that in the event natural sources fail to cover all of the territory intended others shall. The well drilling is making good headway and excellent flows of water are being obtained. Experiments have proven that the outputs can be augmented by the use of pumps and the introduction of electricity and the motor drive is to be accomplished in the near future.

"The Kingdom of Kings River" is the name Mr. Nares and his associates have applied to this remarkable west side territory in the northern part of Kings and the southern part of Fresno counties. Their holdings included in the Laguna de Tache, Summit Lake, Fitzwilliam and smaller ranches are more than 105,000 acres, all of which they plan to ultimately settle in small acreages. For years past they have been conducting a large improvement work consisting of a big reclamation project, the construction of a railroad to provide an outlet for the produce of the district and a great deal of farming on their ranches. Approximately 75,000 acres of the rich delta lands have been reclaimed. For three years dredgers were at work upon two canals each about thirty miles in length extending through these fertile lands to carry off the water, which formerly harrassed them in the wet seasons.

Dairying and alfalfa raising have become the principal industries of the territory, but farming of any description may be conducted there. The colonization work now under way is extensive and a great many settlers have been located in the district in recent years. The result has been the growth of one of the most thriving dairy communities in the state. Within a circle, having a diameter of fifteen miles and including about an equal amount of territory in both Kings and Fresno counties, are seven operating creameries which have more than 1500 patrons. The combined output of



Huge hay stack on the Helm division of the Fitzwillian Ranch. This stack is eighty-four feet long, forty feet high and thirty-six feet wide. It is built of 11,500 bales, the combined weight of which is 804 tons.

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these creameries is about 14,000 pounds of butter daily, which means more than $5,000 a day to the dairymen.

To demonstrate that the soil will permit diversified farming an experimental station has been established on the Fitzwilliam Ranch and here every kind of product and tree that could be desired in such a country has been planted and a careful record is being kept of its growth. The company has placed Mr. Charles E. Pilley, an experienced English horticulturist, in charge of the station. All trees have been raised from seed sown the middle of May and the general crops were planted beginning June 6th. Despite the late start there have been no failures and Mr. Pilley has become firmly convinced that any of the varieties he planted will thrive profitably throughout the west side. The experimental station is immensely valuable. It was established for the purpose of making a thorough test of the soil conditions and its adaptibility for the raising of any kind of plant. It has been the center of attraction for a great many west side land owners and settlers who are watching the operations of the expert with great interest. While no effort has been made to raise any of the varieties in greater amount than for experimental purposes, the garden has been keeping the Fitzwilliam Ranch in fresh vegetables and melons. Some of the plants experimented with are tobacco, hemp, rice and cotton, all of which are receiving much attention throughout the state at the present time. Cotton which was sown June 30th and given but one irrigation, was in flower in less than sixty days. Rice thrived particularly well, as did both tobacco and hemp.

All of the trees have made excellent growth. The assortment includes four varieties of Acacia, Catalpa, five varieties of Eucalyptus, Maple, two varieties of Pinus, Pepper and Texas Umbrella.

The general crops consist of Alfalfa; Hemp, Cowpeas; Saccharine Sorghum, which was sown June 10th and stood eight feet nine inches in height August 28th after two irrigations; Rice; Cotton; Beans; Cucumbers, which were sown July 2nd and cut August 20th; Beets; Carrots; Cauliflower; Celery; Egg Plant; Endive; Lettuce; Mushmelons; Peas; Peppers; Pumpkins; Radishes; Squash; Sweet Corn, sown June 30th and plenty of cobs forming in less than sixty days; Tomatoes; Potatoes; Sweet Potatoes; Tobacco; Horseradish and Watermelons, which were sown June 12th and cut the first week in September. An inspection of the healthy growths of these numerous species is sufficient to convince of the adaptibility of this soil to the growth of any of the varieties planted.

Another convincing monument to the fertility of this west side soil is a huge stack of baled hay on the old Helm property now under the management of the Fitzwilliam Ranch. The alfalfa fields from which the stack was formed are from four to fifteen years in age, the greater part of it being of the older planting. For two seasons no water was had and despite this handicap the initial cutting of the season from the 700 acres was 804 tons. This was baled and the stack that resulted is eighty-four feet long, forty feet high and thirty-six feet wide. It is made of 11,500 bales, which average in weight 140 pounds each. Two more cuttings were obtained during the season but of course no such yield was obtained.

Whether or not the coming season will be dry or wet will make no difference on the Fitzwilliam Ranch as the well drilling operations of the present summer have developed a source of artesian supply sufficient for its needs.

The first artesian well drilled in this "Kingdom of Kings River" is on section 17, 17-19, about one and one-quarter miles north of the present town of Lanare, and is known as the Johns well. It was brought in 27 years ago and for more than a quarter of a century has been steadily flowing. It is finished with 7-inch casing and flows regularly 685 gallons an hour.

About two years later, when the first activity in dairying began, the now famous Adobe well was drilled on sec-

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Artesian well on the Fitzwilliam Ranch. From left to right: Mr. A. C. Cranor, of the Summit Lake Investment Company; Mr. J. W. Wickland, superintendent of Fitzwilliam Ranch; Mr. Roger M. Roberts, agricultural expert for the Santa Fe Railroad Company.

tion 21, 17-19, about one mile southeast of the Johns well. Both holes were drilled to the same stratum and have been producing about the same amount of water through the same sized casing. Several years later a larger well was drilled at the Old White House on section 28, 17-19, about one and one-quarter miles south of the Adobe well. This latest hole was finished with eight-inch casing and the output was increased to 725 gallons a minute. The three wells were practically of the same depth and year after year have flowed steadily, giving evidence of the existence of a fine artesian belt underlying that territory. For many years there was no further development, but with the settling of the country and the rapid spread of dairying a new activity began and three years ago the Shilling well on section 33, 17-19, two miles due south of the Adobe well, was put down. The improvement in the practices of drilling and finishing resulted in the largest well up to that time developed. It flows 1000 gallons a minute. The early part

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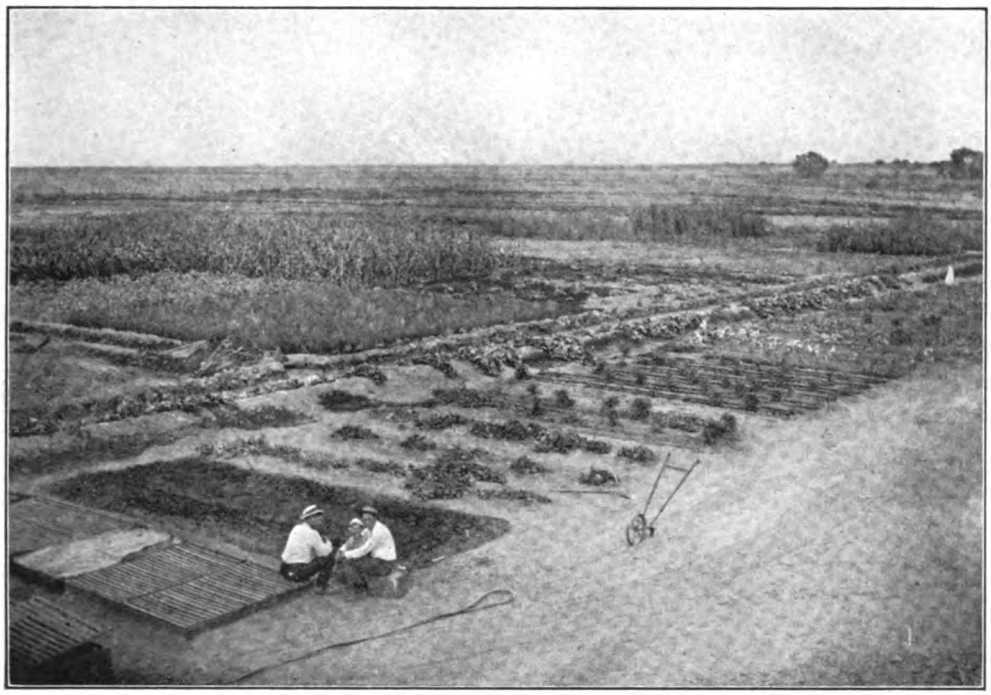
of the present year the belt was considerably widened, first by the sinking of the George A. Smith well on section 26, 17-18, four miles west of the Shilling well. These two wells are practically identical as to depth and amount of flow.

To date this year three wells have been put down on the properties of the Summit Lake Investment Company and the Fitzwilliam Ranch and all three of them are excellent producers. On section 20, 17-19, in the locality of the previous drilling, the best well yet brought in the territory is now flowing. It has since passed into other hands by the transfer of the forty acre piece upon which it was located. It is developing 1,120 gallons a minute and is flowing to the height of four and one-quarter inches over the collar of the ten inch casing. The well was drilled to a depth of 1250 feet and although a good flow was encountered from 800 to 1000 feet, the hole was carried to the greater depth for the purpose of experiment.

The remaining two wells were developed on the Fitzwilliam Ranch about six miles northwest of Lanare. The work was strictly pioneering in this locality and the discoveries were hailed with delight by the owners because of the extending of the proven belt several miles to the west. While it is reasonably certain that a great artesian belt fifty miles wide and one hundred miles long underlies the entire west side district, deep drilling had never been attempted here before. It was decided to drill an experimental well on section 9, 17-18, a short distance south of the Fitzwilliam Ranch headquarters. The well was put down 863 feet and a fine stream of water flowing 492 gallons a minute resulted.

The well has been thoroughly tested out. An eight-inch centrifugal pump was connected and while pumping at maximum capacity the head was low-



Experimental station on the Fitzwilliam Ranch. In the foreground and along the ditch bank is garden truck and melons; at the intersection of the two ditches rice; to the left of the rice cotton, and immediately behind different varieties of corn. The tall growth at the extreme right along the ditch bank is hemp.

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Well on section 20, 17-19, flowing 1120 gallons per minute four and one-quarter inches over the collar of ten-inch casing. Mr. A. C. Cranor, of Summit Lake Investment Company, on left, and Mr. Roger M. Roberts, Santa Fe agricultural expert, on right.

ered twelve feet and no further. The output of the well, however, was increased more than thirty per cent. So successful was the experiment that a huge reservoir having a capacity of eleven and one-half acre feet has been built into which the well is now emptying. Without the reservoir the well was irrigating eight acres a day but under the new system a great deal more ground is being covered.

The success of this well led to further development at the Stinson Headgate, the head of the canal furnishing the Fitzwilliam Ranch and adjacent property with its gravity irrigation supply. There is a natural reservoir site here and the plan is to develop sufficient artesian water to supply the territory now dependent upon the Stinson Canal. The reservoir will be a large one and will receive the outflow

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of a battery of wells to be drilled in proximity. The first well drilled in this location was to a depth of 1028 feet and through seven and five-eighths inch casing has been flowing 542 gallons a minute.

Within the past month an excellent pumping proposition has been opened up in the vicinity of Summit Lake. A fine producing sand has been found at about 57 feet. The water rises to within twelve and eighteen feet of the surface, making pumping most attractive. Tests have proven the wells to be good and consistent producers. The wells are shallow and are put down at small expense. It is expected that this district will become a heavy producer of alfalfa seed as several of the farmers have been giving this industry attention for some time past. In the northwest quarter of section 6, 17-19, E. Awalt of Fresno has put down two wells, fifty-seven feet deep, which will irrigate his entire property. Mr. Newton Roberts, on the southeast quarter of the same section, has drilled two wells and is drilling more. On the southwest quarter of section 5, 17-19, M. Nunis has drilled three wells which are producing from the same stratum. Mrs. Lena Smiley has a well on the northwest quarter of section 1, 17-18. This well is 100 feet deep but is apparently producing from the same stratum. She is also to drill on the northeast quarter of section 7, 17-19. Mr. Nunis conducted a test in one of his wells, casing off the flow at 57 feet and going down to a depth of 90 feet. The same sized flow was had from this level as from the upper. Immediately below the first sand was a stratum of fifteen feet of hard substance. The log of the well shows thirty-two feet of excellent water sand which is first encountered after eighteen feet of soil.

These developments have been sufficient to show the possibilities of well development in the west side territory and even though the owners of the tracts have provided an extensive gravity system for irrigation, the restricting of the same by reason of inadequate rainfall and snowfall as have existed during the past two seasons, should in no way influence crops when advantage is being taken of the underground flow.

Value of California Dairy Products Increase Almost Three Million Dollars in Year

California's dairy products for 1912 were valued at $32,160,078, according to the annual report of State Statistician Robertson compiled from figures furnished by the State Dairy Bureau. This is a gain of $2,961,294 over the output of 1911.

The butter produced was 54,940,866 pounds in 1912 and was worth $16,905,310 as compared with 50,380,736 pounds in 1911, which was worth $14,106,606. As accurately as can be determined the market milk and cream produced in 1912 was valued at about $10,000,000.

In 1912 the cheese production totaled 4,785,617 pounds worth $739,856 as against 4,640,495 pounds produced in 1911 estimated to have been worth $672,872.

An increase of almost one million pounds in the production of condensed milk occurred. In 1912 the aggregate condensed milk output was 9,770,784 pounds valued at $961,662 as compared with 8,820,310 pounds in 1911 worth $793,828.

Calves produced in 1912 are valued at $2,000,000 and skim and buttermilk was worth $1,500,000.

It is asserted in the report that at the present rate of increase California will soon be exporting dairy products.

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Upper View: Mountain showing the winding road leading to Camp 4, the tent covered stru
length to gain an elevation of 1550 feet. The turn to the extreme left is "Horseshoe Bend" while
switchback of winding road. The penstock trench follows the ridge at the extreme right of the
the location of the spillway.

Lower View: The canon of the Nelson Branch from a spot near Camp 4, showing new roadw

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ctures of which are barely visible on the top of the ridge. This road is two and one-half miles in
the one to its right is "Hairpin Turn." The trench of the water pipe line comes down the hill through
photograph. Immediately to the right of the rocky point at the upper end of the penstock trench is

ay under construction and rugged country through which it must be built.

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San Joaquin Light & Power Magazine

Published in the Interest of the Consumers and Employees of the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation.

I. W. ALEXANDER, Editor and Manager

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Vol. I SEPTEMBER No. 9

Maintaining Service in Face of Unforeseen Difficulties

To give service in the face of difficulties, no matter how extraordinary, is one of the functions of a public service corporation and the efficiency of its service to the public is measured in the inverse ratio to the amount of inconvenience caused.

No service is perfect. Although this is the aim toward which all forces are exerted, some unforeseen obstacle can occasionally be depended upon to fall into the path and disturb the equilibrium of a smooth running system.

The San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation was put to the test the last week in August and the manner in which it came from under a most unusual difficulty was a great tribute to the efficiency of the system.

A storm suddenly broke in the midst of the heated season and in the foothill and mountain regions much lightning prevailed. The center of the storm seemed to be in the mountains fringing the southern end of the valley where the lightning was the most severe and the downpour the heaviest. Naturally the heavy laden wires of the power companies in proximity were a most inviting playground for the charged flashes from the heavens.

In the construction of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation's system provision was made for just such an emergency. Protection had been placed at the vital spots sufficient to care for any kind of a lightning storm experienced in the past. That a storm was suddenly to occur at some time greatly more severe as any previously encountered, was not to be known beforehand. The lightning was the zig-zag Eastern variety. It was a new experience and the system was attacked under a disadvantage. To be prepared against any such odds in the future, orders have been placed for additional protective equipment designed to withstand the greater force.

The trouble that occurred on the system was local. The storm raged from August 27th to August 30th, inclusive, and the fact that service was maintained so superbly in the face of big odds is in a large measure due to the loyalty of the operating department, and to the loop system of construction which makes it possible to supply power to the different districts over different trunks. Trouble shooting crews, patrolmen and superintendents worked night and day without the thought of sleep. Every indication of trouble was the signal for the dispatching of repairmen and the greatest of credit is due them for their long and tireless efforts. Much assistance was rendered by consumers who made the discovery of burning poles. They immediately communicated with the company offices and the repair crews were able to go directly to the seat of the trouble. Such thoughtfulness was much appreciated.

The situation was unusual. A storm of such fierceness had not been known in the valley before. It may be the last for years to come and again, another like it may occur this winter, but at any rate the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation demonstrated its ability to maintain the service in the face of such tremendous odds, and at this time is further preparing for any abnormal trouble in the future by installing additional protective apparatus.

That the efforts of the company in giving service were appreciated is indicated by the newspaper comment throughout the valley. No one can be held responsible for interruptions caused by such a storm, but the rapid

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manner in which repairs were made and service resumed has brought much praise to the company.

The following from the Fresno Mirror is an example:

"We congratulate the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation on the maintenance of its service Wednesday evening under great difficulties. The storm played havoc with its wires, in the valley as well as in the mountains, but so well organized were the repair forces and so ably were they directed that the inconvenience suffered by the consumers of light and power was of the most temporary character. Bravo!"

Greater Success for State and District Fairs

The season of the state and district fairs is upon us. For weeks and months past the public has been daily told of the new and grander features to be provided for its enlightenment and entertainment, and the efforts of the hard working fair directors seem sure to be rewarded with greater attendance and greater success than ever before. The fair is surely becoming an indispensible institution in the valley. The districts that hold them each year are accomplishing better results, and many of the counties that are not favored with fair associations have begun a movement to enable the establishment of the same in the near future.

Each succeeding year finds the interest more keen, both on the part of the exhibitor and the spectator. The rapid development of the valley is largely increasing the number of agriculturists located therein. The most efficient work of the agricultural department of the State University has done a wonderful service in improving the quality of the farm and dairy stock and increasing the general efficiency of the farmer. Comparison of methods and results has naturally created a competition, which is working for the betterment of everyone and everything concerned. The different communities, now all on the alert for new settlers, are letting no opportunities go by to display their respective advantages and accomplishments, all of which is immensely beneficial to the investor as well as the spectator.

Early Preparation Is An Essential of Success

District agents are reporting the continued influx of settlers and the beginning of development on a great deal of raw land throughout the valley. This calls attention to the fact that the present time of the year is the most advantageous for this work. It has been the policy of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation to advise farmers and settlers to prepare their lands well in advance of the coming season. It takes time to sink a well and get it on a good producing basis; likewise to properly plow, harrow and strip land.

With a clear field ahead of them for the next year, their plants in full operation and their land prepared for a just test, farmers will be surprised at the fruitful results.

University Seeks Aid For An Agricultural Library

The University of California is endeavoring to build up an Agricultural Library worthy of its name. In going over the files the librarians have found many incomplete and they have appealed to the people of the state for assistance, believing that there are many publications in private libraries that would be freely given to the university were it known that there is a genuine want for them. What is desired are United States publications of an agricultural nature; House documents in which Consulate Reports and special Agricultural Reports are bound; the proceedings of Horticulture, Agriculture, Forestry and other agricultural societies of our own and other states; also bulletins and reports of Agricultural Colleges of other states. The university will also be glad to receive donations of books which persons may desire to add to the collection of the Agricultural Library. Any expense of boxing, express or freight will gladly be met by the university. D. L. Bunnell is librarian in charge.

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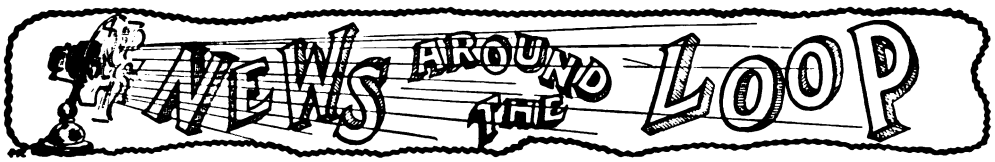

Fresno

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Carpenter enjoyed their vacation at the southern beaches, spending the most of their time in Venice and Los Angeles. Mrs. Carpenter is still away from her desk and does not intend to return until several weeks yet. Although a great devotee of out-of-doors sports, Carp. does not believe in taking too many chances with nature, which accounts for the fact that he did all of his alleged swimming in the plunge at Venice in preference to the surf. Any morning during his stay in the beach town he could be seen in the shallow part of the big tank, endeavoring to keep his head above water by means of a pair of white wings. He reports progress and after a few more vacations he may be able to learn to swim.

C. C. Dickson, who enjoyed a vacation trip with Ralph Beardon to the Northwest, spent a day in Fresno recently while enroute on his return to Corcoran where he is now stationed.

C. M. McCardle, district agent at Dinuba, spent several days in Fresno the early part of the month.

Jack Carter's smiling face was a treat in the Fresno office the first of the month. Jack made the trip from Taft in his machine and was accompanied by Mrs. Carter and the latter's mother. He remained in Fresno from Sunday to Tuesday morning on matters pertaining to business in his district.

General Agent E. D. Farrow, Jr., returned to Fresno the first week in September after a stay of more than two months in the coast districts. After a brief stop in Fresno he went south, first stopping over in McFarland and then continuing on to Bakersfield where matters in that district will occupy his attention for some time.

Miss Jo Purcell, second in seniority on the very agreeable telephone force, has returned from a month's vacation and she reports having had a most enjoyable time.

O. A. Walthall, district agent at McFarland, spent a day in Fresno the first part of the month while on his way from the southern district to Modesto to enjoy a short visit with relatives.

A. Y. Meudell, superintendent of the gas department and of the steam plant at Bakersfield, was in Fresno for a day the first part of the month. Mr. Meudell has just started on his vacation and had been away but four days when the fierce electrical storm hit the southern end of the valley. He of course immediately rushed back to Bakersfield and gave up his vacation in order to be in touch with the plant during the troublesome period. He expects to enjoy the remainder of his vacation during the late fall season.

Miss Mortimer Lamkin returned the first of the month from an enjoyable vacation spent in Alameda and surrounding points of interest. She was absent from her desk for five weeks. The climate of Alameda evidently agrees with her and judging from the action of the scales upon her return to Fresno, she would have had to use two to weigh on had she remained away much longer.

Miss E. P. Ellethorpe, stenographer for Assistant General Manager A. Emory Wishon, is again at her place in the office entirely recovered from her long and serious illness. Before returning to the office Miss Ellethorpe spent two weeks at Camp 1 of the Tule River plant and the bracing mountain climate proved very enjoyable as well as beneficial to her.

Bill Stranahan is now the proud owner of a home. Bill for years past has been yearning for a place to hang his hat at night and sprinkle the lawn in the morning and he has at last found it. When he received the order that he was to be stationed per-

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manently in Fresno for some time to come, Bill promptly got busy and began looking over the city. He found a cozy bungalow on Yosemite avenue which met with the approval of Mrs. Stranahan—she was the principal person to be pleased you know—and before you could say Jack Robinson, Stranie had closed the deal. Stranie and his wife are now comfortably domiciled, to use the old expression, and the senior member of the firm is now arising promptly at the stroke of five and for two hours before breakfast is giving a correct imitation of a man with a hoe. He is also arranging his back yard to care for chickens and in another year his place will be a popular place of call for his friends who are fond of the bird a la Maryland.

George Bernhard, district agent at Madera, was in Fresno for a day early in the month to confer with Assistant General Manager Walthall on matters pertaining to the northern district.

Emil Newman, one of the engineers on the Tule River job, made a regular trip to his camp at North Fork the early part of the month, stopping over in Fresno enroute.

Mark Webster, of the construction department, is now in Taft, having completed the work of equipping the Famosa sub-station. He is now installing three additional 500 K. W. transformers in the Midway substation.

Bill Nelson, the genial foreman of A. Emory Wishon's Pleasant Valley Farm ,was a visitor in Fresno during the early part of the month while on his way to Kingsburg to attend to the shipping of 100 dairy cows to the ranch. Mr. Wishon has established a dairy and has added an electric cream separator to the large amount of motor driven apparatus lately installed on the farm.

Wm. Coddington Edison Otts is again back in Clovis at his post of duty after a most enjoyable two months' outing in the wilds of Alaska. Bill passed through Fresno on his way home and delighted the local office force with his tales of adventure in the frozen north. He brought back many little souvenirs of the northern country and his fertile brain is well stocked with thrilling stories with which he plans to interest the bunch

Tony Rose, garage superintendent of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, at a road camp on the Tule River job

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at Clovis when they hold their nightly meetings around the stove in the Tribune office this winter.

E. J. Crawford returned on the 15th from a two weeks' vacation spent in Berkeley at the home of his mother. Mr. Crawford enjoyed the change immensely and spent his time in again familiarizing himself with the college town.

Work has practically been completed on the East Sixty line between Strathmore and Famosa, the last uncompleted link into Famosa having been built under the supervision of Jerry La Marsna, who was transferred from his post in the Coalinga field to do the job.

A. L. Simmons, who was formerly in the employ of the company and for a time during the past year in the service of the Oro Electric Company at Stockton, has accepted a position in the meter department and is again renewing acquaintances on the system.

Paul B. Wilson, formerly district agent at Alpaugh, has been appointed district agent at Paso Robles to succeed K. B. Glass, and Fletcher A. Easton, power salesman in the Bakersfield and Fresno districts, has been appointed district agent at Selma to succeed L. B. Withers. Both new district agents have been in the employment of the company for several years past and won their promotion by energetic and efficient service.

,Jack Carter, the old reliable district agent at Taft, has had the greatest kind of trouble in preventing his admiring friends proposing his name for the award of a Carnegie Medal for bravery as the result of his heroic action in saving the life of a little child from drowning while in Venice on his vacation trip. Jack performed a very brave deed and has earned the everlasting gratitude of the child's mother, also the undying admiration of his friends, but his great modsety forbids any further cognizance of the incident. That every man would have performed in exactly the same manner under the same circumstances, believes Jack, and he fails to see why he should have any particular distinction. The rescue occurred one morning while Jack and Mrs. Carter, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Carpenter, were strolling along the beach. A number of children were playing in the surf while the watchful mothers were discussing other affairs further up on the beach. One little tot, only several years old, was crawling around on its hands and knees and unnoticed to the rest of the children and the otherwise interested women, got some distance away. Jack, as usual, had his eyes open and was watching the children at play. All at once an extra large wave came in and the little tot was caught up in it on the ebb. As it was being carried into the surf it let out a cry of alarm. Jack, however, already was in motion. When he saw the wave strike the child he knew what was coming and without hesitation struck out through the water. The child's cries attracted its playmates and the elder persons who were nearby, and in a moment the beach was alive with frantic women and children. And Jack sped on. He had his best black suit on but that did not make any difference when the life of a child hung in the balance. Regardless of good clothes and water he hurried on and succeeded in reaching the little child as it was on the verge of going over a wave outward bound. Jack reached down, grabbed the child by the back of the clothing and calmly walked out of the surf carrying his precious burden as if it had been a hand satchel. The anxious mother, of course, fell around the blushing rescuer's neck and all he could do was to modestly smile and assure her that "it was nothing at all." Then he went home and changed his clothes. As long as Jack remained at the beach he was pointed out as the brave life saver. Carp and the rest of the party were real proud of him. This much for the hero tale. Jack, according to the statement of Carp, pulled off a couple of other stunts that were not altogether in keeping with the level-headed conduct of the Taft agent. It seems that they play a game of pool in Venice whereby certain scores count for many thousands of points and if you make enough points you are awarded a prize. Jack took the notion that he wanted

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one of these prizes so he challenged Carp to a game of pool. They played game after game and of course Jack had to pay for the games and at the same time he was being given credit for the points he scored. Finally he paid for enough games to score the required number of points and the award of the prize was made. Lo and behold it was a tea set. "Fine," exclaimed Jack, "I'll just surprise Mrs. Carter with that." After leaving the pool he and Carp sauntered down the walk and finally came across a blind auction.

Charlie Jackson and party hitting the trail for home after a hunting trip in the high Sierras

The auctioneer was very clever and as Jack hove in sight he at once sized him up as a kindly man, too sympathetic to withstand the entreaties of the business. And he was right for within a few minutes he had Jack bidding for something he had never seen. Finally Jack landed it and paying over the large sum of sixty cents took the prize. He opened it and it was another tea set, an exact duplicate of the one he had just been awarded in the pool hall, only the second one cost him a great deal less money. "Well, I guess I am a rube all right, Carp," exclaimed Jack somewhat dejectedly. "What will you have to drink?" Just a moment, here's another one. That afternoon Carp and Jack went swimming in the plunge—Carp would not go in the surf. Jack confided in Carp that it was his first swim in thirty or forty years, but that did not make any difference. Jack had the courage to go about it exactly as if he had been doing it every day of his life. He thought he would dive, so he threw back his head and took a headlong leap. Now Jack had overlooked the fact that he is thin, in fact almost as flat a a pancake, and when he flew out into space he hovered there a minute, just like a big bird, and then dropped. Every equare inch of surface, from the tip of his chin to his toes, hit the water at the same time. It was quite a slap and after he recovered his breath Jack admitted he did not know much about diving after all, but he declared that it felt fine to be in the water again. This will do for Jack. He has been the victim of a conspiracy.

There has been many strange causes for trouble with automobiles but who

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ever heard of a grasshopper getting into the carbureter? Yet that is exactly what occurred on a recent trip of Messrs. Jack Burgess, C. P. Staal, Vet Boller and J. M. Buswell. They had gone to Porterville in Buswell's Ford touring car and on the return trip the car began to balk. After studying its behavior for a short time the quartette decided the trouble must be in the carbureter and when they investigated they discovered a grasshopper tightly wedged in the part. It had caused the outlet to become impeded and only a small portion of the mixture was being fed. How the animal got into the carbureter is more than the power company men could figure out. At any rate it was there for the quartette solemnly swear it was.

That little mischief maker Cupid stealthily sneaked into the Fresno office twice during the month and led two well known members of the force to the altar. Friday evening, September 5th, Miss Mao Elam, for several years past stenographer in the purchasing department, became the bride of Mr. Jasper I. Cook, a well known and highly esteemed young resident of Fresno. The day before Leroy C. Nimmo, who is the chief clerk in the checking over of construction estimates in the office of Inspector Buswell, departed for Ruthland, Vermont, where shortly after his arrival he and Miss Marion L. Colvin were married. Both events came as quite a surprise to the office in general. Miss Elam had just departed on her vacation and had gone to Porterville to enjoy a brief outing with friends there. She returned to Fresno Friday evening and she and Mr Cook, accompanied by two of their friends, by arrangement went to the parsonage of the First Baptist Church where Rev. J. W. Conley performed the ceremony. They departed that night for San Francisco where they enjoyed a week or more on a honeymoon trip before returning to Fresno. A genuine reception was accorded Mrs. Cook upon her return to the office and she was the recipient of a handsome present from the young lady members of the force.

Mr. Nimmo did not cover his tracks as cleverly as did the former Miss Elam. He succeeded, however, in keeping the cat in the bag until he got out of Fresno and not until he was on his way to the far corner of the nation to meet the future Mrs. Nimmo was the real purpose of his vacation known. He left some kind of word to the young lady who shares the same office with him, and of course the inevitable resulted. But then she cannot be blamed for this is the note that he left:

"Skinnay:

Just to satisfy your curiosity the doings are in Rutland, Vermont. The young lady in question is Miss Marion L. Colvin, to whom I have been engaged for about eight months and whom I have known for some seven years. It is nothing new at all and we have merely been waiting for the logical moment. Trusting your ability to KEEP WHAT YOU KNOW UNDER YOUR HAT, I am now away in that same old cloud of mud.

Sincerely yours and yours horribly,
LEROY C. NIMMO."

Shortly after the ceremony the newlyweds started west enjoying their honeymoon on a trip across the continent to Los Angeles where a short time was spent before coming on to Fresno. Mrs. Nimmo is a most attractive young lady and will be gladly welcomed by the many friends of her husband.

A change has occurred in the personnel of the Dinuba office force, H. W. Campbell and W. L. Darrah resigning to return to their former locations in Sanger and Los Angeles, while B. L. Jennings of Los Angeles and W. H. Young, who was clerk on the North Fork job under Engineer Newman, are now in the southern district filling the vacancies.

General Manager A. G. Wishon enjoyed a ten days' vacation this month. After a few days in San Francisco, accompanied by Mrs. Wishon he went to Bartlett Springs where he remained more than a week taking the waters.

W. G. Parks, of the bookkeeping department, enjoyed a two weeks' vacation during the month. Mr. Parks does not believe in chasing around the

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Elmer Gates, superintendent of the San Joaquin Power Houses, fording the river behind his sturdy team. The younger Mr. Gates is at his side.

country during his time off duty, but remained at home and got all of the rest he could.

Mrs. L. Price was transferred from the Fresno office, where she has held the position of assistant cashier for some time past, to Selma early in the month and there is in charge of the work in the consumers department. The vacancy caused in the Fresno office has been filled by Miss Grace Scott.

Among the new faces in the Fresno office is that of W. R. R. Porter, who is a member of the force of inside collectors. Mr. Porter has been with the company more than a month. He was formerly a newspaperman and was forced to give up the service in Washington and other large eastern news centers on the account of failing health. He came west and the change did him a world of good. That he has entirely recovered his former good health is at once evident from his cheery disposition while at work on the counter.

Treasurer and Comptroller A. E. Peat was a visitor in the Fresno office during the month, coming up from Los Angeles on regular business matters.

Traveling Auditor E. S. Erwin enjoyed his vacation during the month. He went to the Northwest, visiting Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Victoria and the other points of interest in that picturesque country. Since his return he has been dividing his time between the outside districts and the office.

Charles Kennedy has joined the force of clerks to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of E. N. Chadwick.

J. H. Zimmerman took his two weeks vacation during the month and spent the time in the mountains.

Miss Mamie Sahm is a new member of the stenographic force and has been assigned to work under Miss Hickman.

Chief Inspector J. M. Buswell had a narrow escape from injury by a bullet recently while covering the distance between Fowler and Selma. The bullet struck his automobile and had it been a short distance higher it would have hit Mr. Buswell. He at once stopped his machine and turning around drove back in an effort to find who was responsible for the firing of the shot but was unsuccessful in locating anyone. A hunter was probably in a field and after seeing that his aim was bad and missed the target at which he was shooting, hitting the passing automobile instead, he probably hid from view until the danger from detection had passed. Mr. Buswell spends much of his time on the county roads in his work over the different districts and this is the second recent escape he has had from stray bullets. One time before while turning into Kearney Boulevard on his return from Coalinga, a bullet from a hunter's gun came dangerously near him.

Miss Winifred FitzGerald was pleasantly surprised by her friends recently on the evening of her birthday when a party of young ladies and gentlemen

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walked in on her unannounced. Games and music occupied the time most pleasantly and luncheon was served at a late hour. Birthdays like that are worth while, Miss FitzGerald says.

Lightning struck Power House No. 3 at 11 o'clock the night of September 12th but did little damage owing to the heroic efforts of Operator McDonald. The lightning came into the house on the line jumping over the insulators to the grounded brackets onto which the insulators were fastened, causing fire and broken insulators to fall in a dense shower all around. Without hesitation Operator McDonald turned off the water gate to the generator and after pulling out the twoline switches, beat a hasty retreat. The damage was trivial, being confined to insulators and telephone fuses, thanks to the bravery and presence of mind of McDonald.

While hurrying to a fire on his motorcycle the latter part of last month, Jack Walsh, one of the patrolmen, collided with an automobile and was badly stunned. Luckily no bones were broken and after a few days rest he was sufficiently recovered from the bruises and cuts to return to work.

Bakersfield

David B. Ogle, office assistant to C. L. Easton, and his hunting party returned from the Kernville Mountains where they had considerable success. They killed two bucks, but were caught in the floods coming back and the venison spoiled. Dave is now busy squaring himself with various friends to whom he had promised juicy steaks.

R. J. Carlisle, garage foreman, while trying out a motorcycle on the 28th, had the misfortune to collide with an auto, and was thrown to the ground. He escaped, however, with a few scratches and abrasions and was only slightly bruised.

H. V. LaBrecque, garage floor man, and family have gone to the Caliente Hills on a two week's vacation and hunt.

Now that the hot weather is past, the San Joaquin Social Club is contemplating the giving of another social dance on the evening of October 11th. Miss Dena Pesante, the energetic and lively secretary of the association, is now busy laying out the plans for the same.

J. H. Carr, former superintendent inside wiring department, has just returned from a five weeks' auto trip to Pismo Beach, San Jose, Stockton, Fresno and other points. He reports having a most enjoyable trip.

Doc Battle and Harry Morrison have returned from their three weeks' hunting trip in Tejon Canyon, and report having bagged one stag and wounded a large mountain lion, which, however, escaped into the brush. It is a fact, however, that the day following the assault an ad appeared in the town papers offering a reward for the return of a large striped yellow tom cat which had strayed away from a farm house not so very far distant from where the assault on his lionship was perpetrated.

O. M. Simpson, chief clerk, is back from one week's vacation spent at Pine Flats, above the California Hot Springs. Mr. Simpson brought back several trout backbones and fins, although he does not actually state that he caught them himself. He reports having had poor luck deer hunting.

Bert Walford, suburban collector and meter reader, has returned with his family from a two weeks' vacation spent at Long Beach and San Pedro, where he enjoyed extensive albacore fishing. He caught several weighing 30 and 42½ pounds. He also had an exciting combat with a swordfish, which finally escaped.

News received of Frank Easton, former draughtsman in the Bakersfield office and who is now at the University of California, states that he is already making a name for himself in athletics. Frank is playing fullback on the Freshman Rugby team and in all probability has a very good opportunity to make the Varsity team. His friends in Bakersfield will follow his athletics and studies with a great deal of interest.

M. Nichols, line foreman, has finished the erecting of all the poles on the Miller & Lux transmission lines and has returned to town. Foreman Leehy is now putting in the wire and

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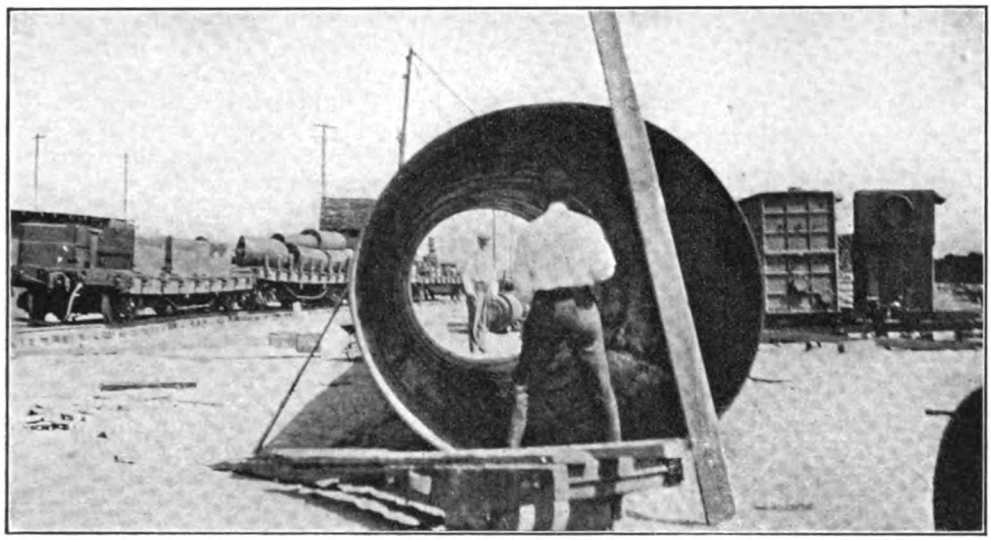
the lines will soon be completed. Service is being rendered as far as Buttonwillow.

James Slater, clerk in the consumers department, resigned his position on the 15th of last month. He is succeeded by J. B. O'Brien.

E. W. Thompson is now taking an enforced vacation due to a slight indisposition.

O. A. Walthall, district agent at McFarland, started north on his vacation but was recalled at Modesto and is now back getting some data for the general office at Fresno.



Mr. G. F. Chellis, of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, caught in the act of snapping Engineer Bob Brisbane through one of the smoke stacks for the addition to the Bakersfield steam plant. This picture was taken by A. Y. Meudell, superintendent of the steam plant. Mr. Meudell suggested this title: "Chellis, the man who put the "V" in K. V. A., looking for some of his lost pets."

A. Y. Meudell will now wear his most genial, expansive and broadest smile and has lost a certain hungry look that he has been wearing for the past three weeks due to the fact that Mrs. Meudell and daughters, Myrtle and Mary, have returned from their summer vacation at Redondo Beach. Ace now habitually carries a toothpick in the left corner of his mouth—that is when there is not a cigarette in the above named place.

C. F. Gilcrest, who is chief of the meter department, and Lou Johnston, local superintendent of the meter department, have been for the past few days testing graphic meters in the West Side oilfields, Kern River and at the canyon plant.

Warren Ten Eyck, assistant inspector in the meter department, spent a week at the California Hot Springs. While on a hunting expedition Warren and his companions succeeding in losing each other and did not get back to their camp for approximately 24 hours. Searching parties had been sent out to look for them. Warren says that finding short circuits and grounds is a far easier proposition to solve than finding your way through timber on a dark night on your way back to a lost camp.

C. E. DePue has accepted a position in the storeroom.

A. B. Simpson of the collection department is back again at his desk with his inexhaustive making of extraction arguments. He was under the weather for a day or two.

Walter Kellar, appliance man, and family have gone to Tejon Canyon for a two weeks' trip. Kellar says he will endeavor to find the tom cat that Doc

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Battle scared away from its camp and will bring it in.

C. A. Miller has resigned his position in the appliance department.

E. Burk has been promoted from the service crew to the gas appliance wagon.

A. Neal Jacobs, dispatcher, is enjoying a two weeks' visit from his mother, Mrs. L. Jacobs of Alameda.

Two of the 6-640 horsepower boilers for the new steam turbine are now in place and two more are ready to go in as soon as the turbine arrives.

The gas steam heating plants for the Southern Hotel and the Redlick Building are being installed by Mr. Meudell, superintendent of the gas department.

H. H. McClintock, superintendent of the Southern California Gas Company and the Northern Exploration Company, has sold his bungalow on Cedar street and moved to 2104 B street to the house formerly occupied by S. G. Gassaway, the local General Electric representative.

Harry A. Jastro and wife have returned from a two weeks' trip to Democrat Springs and report having had a most enjoyable time.

The Bakersfield sales department disposed of 258 electric fans in spite of the fact that the summer weather in Bakersfield this year was not at all favorable for the sale of such appliances until the warm spell during the latter part of August. The salesroom, conducted by F. T. Bishop and assisted by F. S. Upson, is disposing of gas ranges at an average of one a day, and look forward to a large amount of business when the gas heating stock arrives.

Miss Eva Smith, head timekeeper, and Miss Rose McGeary, stenographer, have returned from their vacations spent at Catalina and the southern beaches. In addition to indulging in the many summer resort pastimes so dear to the hearts of young ladies, the Bakersfield girls had considerable pleasure in pursuing the sport made memorable by Isaac Walton. They endeavored to hook great black bass, commonly called Jew fish, but unfortunately they had little luck. Upon their return home Superintendent Easton gravely informed them that their failure was due to the fact that their hooks had not been sufficiently baited.

Wm. Tyler, foreman of the gas department, and Mrs. Tyler enjoyed a week's vacation beginning September 11th. They spent the time in the Ventura Mountains and report a very enjoyable outing.

Electrical Superintendent Charles L. Easton and his boys kept long hours during the storm. Charlie did not sleep for 56 hours and many of his faithful workers went as long as 48 hours without rest. They did fine work in keeping up the service.

Since Mr. G. F. Chellis of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation has been making regular trips to Bakersfield in connection with the construction of the addition to the steam plant, the doctrine of the K. V. A. has been so religiously preached that the entire Bakersfield bunch is now thinking in K. V. A.'s. It fact they point with pride to the young ladies of their office and pronounce them the dandiest little bunch of K. V. A.'s on the system. There is but one blot to mar the serenity of the picture on the opposite page, and that is the figure of "Ace" Meudell, but as he modestly requested that his face be erased from view so as not to shadow the beauty of the group and the Magazine did not wish to accept Mr. Meudell's suggestion the popular superintendent is shown in a happy frame of mind admonishing the girls to hold still for the camera man. The young ladies had taken so much dictation concerning K. V. A.'s that they decided they would like to take a look at the big machinery that was causing them all of their troubles. So Superintendent Meudell gracefully volunteered to escort them over the big plant and explain the workings of the different pieces of machinery. While they were inspecting the huge new steam turbine generator the camera man happened along and the picture on the opposite page is the result. Commercial Manager Harry Jastro declares that if this new turbine will consistently produce such good looking K.

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The Bakesfield K. V. A.'s

V. A.'s when in active service, the commercial department should have no trouble at all in disposing of the output, and this particular part of the Bakersfield steam plant should be the most attractive place wherein to be employed. The excursion most certainly was very enlightening to the

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young ladies and they were very thankful to Mr. Meudell for his kindness. Reading from left to right along the top row the young ladies are Miss Nellie Thompson, assistant dispatcher; Miss Edith Parker, railroad receiving clerk; Miss E. M. Smith, chief timekeeper; and Miss Rose McGeary, stenographer. Middle row, Miss Thea Altstaetter, telephone operator, and Mrs. J. E. Wilson, stenographer in the commercial department. At the bottom is Miss Dena Pesante, stenographer for Chief Clerk Simpson and the energetic secretary of the San Joaquin Social Club, which is planning a number of very pleasant affairs the coming season.

Tule River

Ed Rothchild, who is in charge of the cementing in the tunnels, made a trip to Springville recently to meet his mother before her departure for the east. While "down the hill" Ed enjoyed himself to the utmost as is evidenced by a number of small snapshots that have been given conspicuous places in his tent.

Marian Wishon, who drove the gasoline engine through the tunnels during the summer, departed for Berkeley with his sister the latter part of August to enjoy a vacation before the beginning of school, which they attend in Visalia.

M. Weile, one of the engineers on the job, and Mrs. Weile are planning an extensive vacation after the completion of the work. Mrs. Weile is spending her time on the hill and has been getting considerable enjoyment out of her camera.

R. H. Dick, who is known as "the Staal of the hill top," suffered a severe cold during the month of August but has now entirely recovered.

The commissary is now in charge of L. A. Lewis and he is on the job every minute in the day. Lewis is always Johnny on the spot when there is a chance to do any business and his eagerness along this line caused him to fall victim to one of D. L. Wishon's jokes. While telephoning to the commissary one day Mr. Wishon asked:

"Say, Louis, have you 1910 pennies over there?"

"I think I can find one for you, Mr. Wishon," answered the storekeeper, eager to be of service.

"Let me know if you can," replied Mr. Wishon, "1910 pennies are worth a little money."

"Are they?" exclaimed Louie, pricking up his ears.

"You bet they are," answered the boss of the job, "I will give you $15 for them."

"All right, that's a go."

Mr. Wishon had completely forgotten the incident when one evening about a week later Louie rang him up.

"Mr. Wishon, if you don't mind you can send me over the $15 for that 1910 penny now," said Louie.

"So you got them, did you?" asked Mr. Wishon with a laugh in his voice. "They must make quite a sack full."

And with that Louie came to his senses.

"Say!" he shouted through the telephone, "you have me beaten at making money."

The next time D. L. appeared on the hill top, Louie opened a cake of chocolate in his honor.

C. H. Nichol, who at previous times has been in the employ of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation on different construction jobs, is now located at Springville where he is joint shipping clerk for the San Joaquin and the J. G. White Engineering Corporation.

Charlie Jackson, who formerly was the superintendent of the Fresno Traction Company when it was owned by the San Joaquin but it now one of the prosperous and influential citizens of Tulare County, with his family spent the night at D. L. Wishon's camp September 1st. Charlie and his party had been back into the Sierras on a vacation but after experiencing about two weeks of constant rain decided it was time to go home. The party had a splendid set of horns to show for their trip, however.

The storm which prevailed over the southern end of the state was felt on the Tule River too, and in three days

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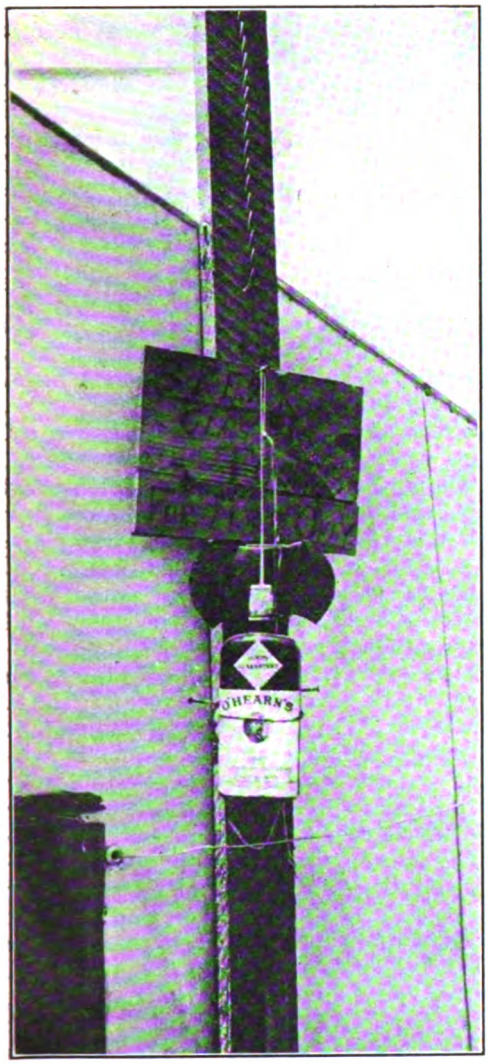

Although far away from a metropolis the boys on the job at Tule River like to be reminded occasionally of city life. Some one of them has here ingenuously contrived a means for fighting fire after the pattern of similar sets placed in buildings and on railroad trains. "Break the Glass to Get Tools. For Fire Only" the sign reads. Judging from appearances some part of the contrivance has already been given a baptism of fire.

any storm since the power company of intermittent rain 3.85 inches was the precipitation record at Camp 1. Being such a heavy rain for the first of the season it washed down a great deal of dirt, in fact more than during operations have been under way. The water in the river was very muddy and remained so for several days. Slight damage was done to the road in places but several road crews were ordered out and all was made as good as new in a very short time.

Mr. G. O. Newman, chief of the engineering department of the San Joaquin, accompanied by Mr. Rhodin, Mr. Hewins and Mr. Kermack of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, were on the top of the hill the first of the month discussing details of the power house construction. Mr. Newman stopped over in Fresno while on his return to Los Angeles.

Mr. Kermack, who has been in charge of the work at the power house site for the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, was forced to desert his duties temporarily owing to the injury sustained to his knee some time previous, and while he was indisposed Mr. Hewins took charge of the work.

The apple trees on the Doyle place have done very well this season and with the approach of the winter season they are beginning to ripen. Mr. D. L. Wishon is closely watching them and when the first opportunity arises he will begin the annual harvest.

With the closing of the deer season September 1st, there was an exodus of hunters from the higher mountains and a veritable procession passed through Camp 1 on the way out. The deer likewise were driven out of the higher mountains by the storm and a few days before the season closed C. E. Barton went out from Camp 1. Not far distant he spied a band of ten and after a patient wait of two hours he got a shot at a couple of bucks but the long vigil evidently unnerved him and he missed both.

With Street Car Boys

Motorman J. Moore says he is glad the hot weather is over as he claims that it causes his car, No. 11, to become loggy at times.

Motorman Andy Anderson expects to take a few weeks vacation. Andy has been at the wheel for the past six years.

Motorman H. Crandall spent a very

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pleasant visit at the southern beaches, going as far as the southern border of the state. There he turned back as he did not care to cross the border and have to trample a regiment of the unruly Mexicans.

Motorman Fred Weigan and W. Stock are attending to main line run No. 5 for the month of September.

Motorman J. Cummings has moved to his new quarters on California avenue. J. A. does not believe in paying it all to one landlord. His sister-in-law and nephew will make their home with him for the winter.

Pat Washburn, the real estate broker, is improving his several holding in and around the city.

Motorman J. LaChance and Harry Shaffer have the main line run No. 8 for September. This is the heavy run and you will find them always on the dot.

Motorman F. McSmith looked forward with much pleasure to the arrival of the circus. Frank is acquainted with some of the performers, including the fat lady.

Motorman C. O. Files has been on the sick list with symptoms of appendicitis.

Conductor Al Brower has main line run No. 1 with C. Nelson. Al says he had to keep an eye on Nelson the first few days as he had an inclination to get off the car at times and take the trail but expects by careful watching to have him pacified soon.

H. Crossno and family have returned after a two month visit to his parents' home in Illinois. They had a delightful visit. Mr. Crossno helped to harvest the grain crop and did justice to the chicken dinners served on the eastern farms during harvest time.

Conductor L. Kast has purchased some fine Belgian hares which he expects to feast on if he can keep dogs from getting in his yard and devouring the rabbits first.

Emory Garrett is steadily improving his record. Emory likes to crack a joke as well as take one and the result is he is a favorite with all the boys and girls.

Superintendent J. F. Turner enjoyed his vacation the fore part of the month and he has returned much improved in health. Mr. Turner has been faithfully on the job since taking charge of the Bakersfield system and all of the boys were glad to see him get a well earned rest. He first went to Los Angeles for a short visit with his former associates in the street car service there, and later went to the northern part of the state to enjoy the rest of his time with relatives. It was a great satisfaction to him to find the affairs of the system running without a hitch during his absence.

The mighty hunters have returned, but were it not for their unshaved and unkempt appearance upon their arrival the rest of the boys would not know that any of their number had spent a vacation in the mountains. None of the fellows are smacking their lips after the delicious taste of jerky and consequently as far as they are concerned the Nelson and Clark expedition was not a success. Nelson and Clark, however, have an entirely different view of the case and they report having a most delightful trip. While they admit that there was a scarcity of game —that is they did not see very much— they were informed by more successful hunters that the quality of the prey was very poor this season and for that reason they were satisfied to make no especial effort to slaughter the deer. One specie of game was encountered, however, and that was wild boar, so the street car men claim. They ran across a veritable herd of these animals and the hunters gave the impression that they enjoyed wild ham and bacon with every meal, but the boys generally are taking this bit of information with a great deal of salt. Mrs. Nelson and the younger member of the Nelson family also were members of the party. They were gone a month and consider themselves very fortunate to have escaped the hot days in August. Nelson and Clark are again back on their runs and the service has recovered from the tumult occasioned by their reappearance.

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